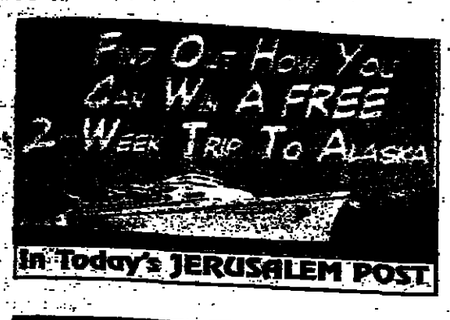
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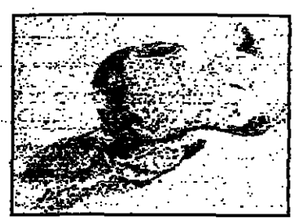
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UN: Human rights better in Israel, worse in PA

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – There are some positive human rights developments in the Israeli treatment of Palestinians, but abuses by the Palestinian Authority, including torture, appear to be increasing, the UN human rights investigator said in a report that became public yesterday.

An overall assessment of the human rights situation remains "worrying," Hannu Halinen of Finland said in his report on the "question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine."

"While there is a certain positive development to be recognized on the Israeli side – such as the decrease in administrative detentions and discontinuation of the most flagrant torture methods – it appears that such violations are increasing on the Palestinian side," Halinen said.

Many administrative detentions were related to individuals exercising their right to freedom of expression, Halinen said.

"The pressure exercised by the occupying power on the Palestinian Authority, while explaining many violations, does not justify them, nor does it absolve the Palestinian Authority of its responsibility," he wrote in the report, which also said twice that the investigator's role was not an "accusatory" one.

Regional experts discuss water cooperation, Page 4

The 17-page report will be considered by the 53-member UN *Commission on Human Rights*, which begins its annual six-week session in Geneva on March 22 to examine violations worldwide.

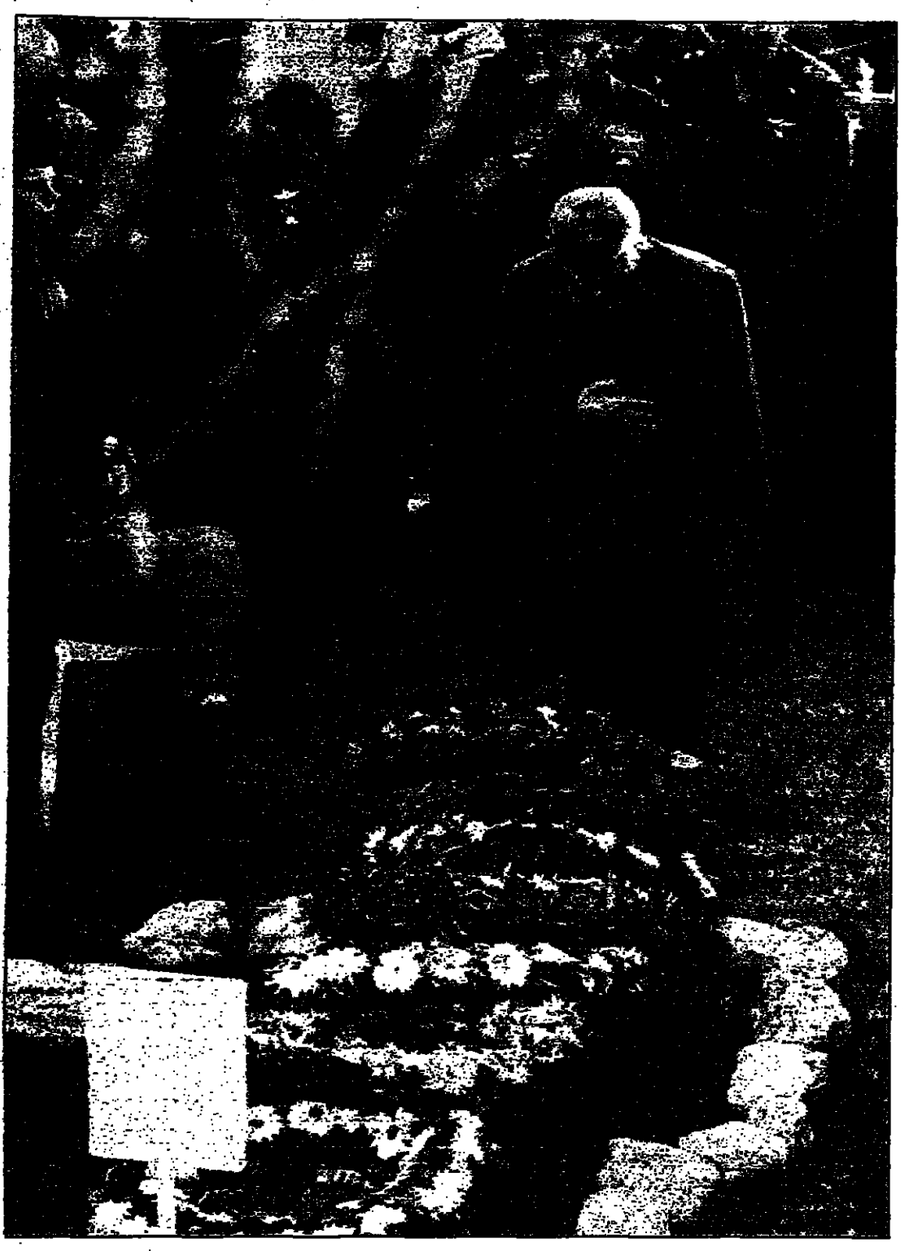
Israel did not cooperate with Halinen. In a letter to the inspector, David Peleg, the Israeli representative at the UN in Geneva, challenged the underlying premise of his mission, which is that Israel is in violation of international law and conventions.

Halinen also expressed his support for a conference of the parties to the Geneva Convention on "illegal" Israeli activities in the territories. Last month, an emergency session of the General Assembly voted for such a conference in July.

"At a time of complex political processes, there is a need to reaffirm the legal status of the occupied territories until the end of the occupation," he wrote. Furthermore, he said, the human rights and humanitarian concerns he had uncovered "are themselves a raison d'etre for re-establishing the applicability of the convention." Halinen's report was based on a trip in January to Jerusalem, Gaza, Ramallah, Jericho, Tel Aviv and Cairo. He met Palestinian officials, including Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat as well as Israelis from non-governmental organizations.

Halinen also said Israel was depriving Palestinians of economic and other basic freedoms.

The expansion of Israeli settlements and the building of bypass roads connecting the settlements to each other and Israel was the source of greatest concern in the occupied territories, he wrote. "These concerns have been exacerbated by the unilateral suspension by Israel on 2 December 1998 of the implementation of the Wye River *Memorandum*."



Gen. Antoine Lahad, commander of the South Lebanese Army, pays his respects yesterday during the Kibbutz Reshafim funeral of Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, chief of the Lebanon Liaison Unit, who was killed in the Hizbullah roadside bombing on Sunday. Story, Page 2 (AP)

Defense Minister Arens tells 'Post':

Grapes of Wrath deal should be reconsidered

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN, AMOTZ ASA-EL, and DANNA HARMAN

Israel is considering its options concerning the Grapes of Wrath understandings to give the IDF a freer hand to strike at Hizbullah.

"I am convinced that the understandings that were reached after the Grapes of Wrath operation were bad for the IDF, because in a large measure they tie the IDF's hands and won't allow it to use its full capability and provide a large degree of immunity to the Hizbullah," Defense Minister Moshe Arens told the *The Jerusalem Post*.

Asked if Israel would abandon the understandings, Arens said. "It is a possibility among a number of options that we have to look at.... Changing something which has been agreed on is not a simple matter. The understandings create a situation in which Hizbullah is free to launch attacks against Israeli and SLA soldiers and outposts in the security zone and we are not free to attack their bases, which are in the villages. That is an asymmetry which I think everybody realizes makes it very difficult for the IDF."

A security source, meanwhile, said that "[Prime Minister Binyamin] Netanyahu has already made it clear that he would not be limited by the security zone and the air force has already bombed [further north] in Baalbek. We will take all steps necessary."

Another senior source noted that "Hizbullah breaks the agreement every day by placing its cadres in civilian areas and firing from them. There is a daily violation of the agreements on its part."

The IDF, too, is intensifying its complaints to the monitoring group in what appears to be media preparation for rupturing the understandings. Once announcements of meetings of the five-nation monitoring group were made in laconic statements. Today, the IDF Spokesman's Office is putting heavy emphasis on them, including detailed accounts of Hizbullah violations.

Netanyahu, Barak spar over Lebanon pullout, Page 3

The meeting of delegates from Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, the US, and France which convened *last night in Nakoura, for example*, discussed five Israeli complaints. Military sources even detailed the complaints to say that Hizbullah fired 70 mortar rounds at IDF targets from inside Lebanese villages.

The US-brokered understandings, reached in 1996 after the accidental shelling of civilians sheltering in a UN position in Kafr Kana, bar attacks on or from civilian sites.

The source said that Israel has no intention of leaving the five-nation monitoring group, since it gives Israel contact with Syrians and others that it would otherwise not be able to have.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister *Ariel Sharon last night* proposed establishing "an emergency national unity government" for several months – even if this means postponing the May 17 elections, Israel Radio reported.

The radio said Sharon had suggested in an interview that Labor and the Likud set up a unity government for several months to deal with the issues of Lebanon and peace talks with the Palestinians. He said Sharon had informed Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu of his proposal.

"Sharon too understands now that Netanyahu has failed, and is unable to deal with the matters of the day in this country," the Labor Party said in response. "After the elections, Ehud Barak will create a broad government which will work with determination and courage to fix all the failures of Netanyahu."

Netanyahu suggested in an interview with Channel 2 last night that the government is working towards new "solutions" in Lebanon.

See GRAPES, Page 2

Bush takes step toward candidacy

Buchanan opens third US presidential campaign

AUSTIN, Texas – Texas Gov. George W. Bush yesterday took a key step toward declaring himself a candidate in next year's US presidential election.

Bush, 52, the son of former president George Bush, said he plans to form an exploratory committee, a move which will allow him to raise money and gauge national support for a possible campaign. He has begun assembling a fund-raising team and has been consulting policy advisers for weeks.

Speaking on Texas Independence Day, Bush told reporters at the governor's mansion in Austin that he would formally authorize the formation of an exploratory committee this coming weekend.

"Those of you who cover me every day know I don't make this decision lightly. I've carefully considered its ramifications," Bush said.

"It'll be interesting to see what the different politics are around the country. But raising money is the most important aspect of an exploratory committee," he added.

Polls have consistently shown that Bush is an early front-runner for the Republican Party's nomination.

Elected by a huge majority to a second term as governor of the second most populous US state in November, Bush has long maintained that he has not yet made up his mind whether to seek the nation's highest political office.

His announcement appeared to keep the guessing game alive by putting off a final decision on a possible candidacy until a later date.

Meanwhile, Pat Buchanan, the conservative commentator whose low-budget campaigns shocked the Republican establishment in 1992 and 1996, opened his third presidential race in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Bush has said he won't talk about other candidates until he enters the race.

Buchanan pledged to fight "a moral deficit that has become America's great enemy within." Suggesting that the Clinton administration has contributed to "a polluted and poisoned" culture, Buchanan delivered a full-throated attack on the Democratic White House.

"This temple of our civilization has been desecrated, used to shake down corporate executives, to lie with abandon to the American people, a place to exploit women," he said.

He promised to stand against unfettered imports, freewheeling immigration, abortion, euthanasia, expanded judicial powers, a shrinking American sovereignty and, at times, his own party – all familiar themes of a Buchanan candidacy.

Though he has a history of exceeding their predictions, many Republican strategists and conservative activists believe Buchanan's third race won't be charmed. Working against him this time: a swelling field of like-minded candidates, a greater demand for money, and a relatively late start.

"I love Pat and agree with much of what he stands for, but I can't construct a scenario where he has a chance to win," said Paul Weyrich, a leading conservative intellectual from Washington. Buchanan was hearing none of it.

"We need a new patriotism in America that puts country first, a new conservatism of the heart that puts people first, and a new set of priorities where our party stands for something higher and greater than the bottom line on a balance sheet," he said.

A crowd of at least 300 yelled, "Go Pat, Go!"

"It is our calling to recapture the independence and lost sovereignty of our republic, to clean up all that pollutes our culture, and to heal the soul of America. And, to that end, I declare my candidacy for president of the United States."

Closing with his traditional battle cry, Buchanan grabbed the hand of his wife, Shelley, and shouted: "As we say, mount up and ride to the sound of the guns!"

Buchanan's third campaign began where his others peaked, *in this first-in-the-nation primary state*. He beat eventual nominee Bob Dole in the New Hampshire primary four years ago and put a scare into president George Bush in 1992, finishing a close second.

Soon after, both times, Buchanan ran out of money and votes.

Buchanan is trying to overtake the early Republican front-runners, Bush, and Dole's wife, former Red Cross president Elizabeth Dole. (News agencies)



Purim provocation

A man hangs a mannequin wearing a keffiyeh, a gorilla mask, and holding a toy gun in the Geula neighborhood of Jerusalem yesterday. The sign on the mannequin reads: Ehud/Aharon Barak. Municipal workers ordered the doll removed. (Text: Amy Klein; photo: Ariel Jerozolimski/The Jerusalem Post)

Egged teaching its drivers English

By HAIM SHAPIRO

The next time you see a couple of tourists get on an Egged bus, the chances are you won't be called in to act as an interpreter.

This, at least, is the hope of Egged spokesman Ron Ratner, *who reports that in an effort to* upgrade the services of the bus cooperative, some 400 drivers are presently learning spoken English.

"We want to give them the tools to help in their work, such as a knowledge of spoken English," Ratner said yesterday.

Ratner added that this is not the only effort by the cooperative to spruce up its image in preparation for an expected wave of visitors for the millennium. On June 1, the company is to provide all its drivers with uniforms. Egged is also *working on upgrading its information* centers and setting up an Internet site, he said.

Ratner said the company organized a pilot English course and found it very successful, he said. Now it has 18 such courses throughout the country, provided by the Shahar Institute, using a special curriculum that stresses the phrases the driver is likely to use in his contact with passengers.

"By 2000, we want every driver who wants to, to be able to speak English," Ratner said.

The drivers, he said, are studying on their own time and also pay what he described as a "symbolic fee" for the course. Egged has invested NIS 500,000 in the project.

Arab justice joins Supreme Court

By DAN IZENBERG

Abdel Rahman Zuabi today takes his seat as the first Arab to sit on the Supreme Court. The 66-year old deputy president of the Nazareth District Court has been given a nine-month appointment.

Zuabi was chosen for the post by Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, who yesterday said that "his appointment highlights the successful integration of the Arab community in the life of the state."

Zuabi studied law at the school for higher studies and economics in Tel Aviv, and received his license in 1960. He headed private law firms in Haifa and Nazareth, and was appointed to the Nazareth District Court in 1978.

He was a member of the judicial committee of inquiry, headed by Supreme Court president Meir Shamgar, which investigated the 1994 Machpela Cave massacre.

He was also responsible for several precedents which were later confirmed by the Supreme Court. Zuabi established the exclusive right of the Moslem sha'ariya courts to fix alimony payments. He also ruled that testimony given by a witness to an investigator is valid, even if the witness refused to repeat the testimony in court.

Recently, Supreme Court Justices Ya'acov Kedmi, Dalia Dorner, and Menahem Ilan severely reprimanded Zuabi and Nazareth District Court Judges Aharon Aminof and Haim Galpaz for failing to investigate the credentials of a key witness in a murder trial. The witness turned out to be unreliable.

NEWS
in brief

2 prisoners turned over to Red Cross in Lebanon

Israel has handed a Palestinian and a Lebanese prisoner to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Lebanon, a spokeswoman for the Prisons Authority said yesterday. The Lebanese was freed yesterday and the Palestinian on Sunday, said Levana Levy-Shai. She did not provide details. Israel Radio said that Kassem Faris, an Amal member, had served a six-year sentence for carrying out an attack in Israel. Mahmoud Nimr Ali, a Palestinian, was granted early release for health reasons. He served 10 years of a 12-year sentence for infiltrating Israel with the intent of carrying out an attack.

The two were transferred to the Red Cross in southern Lebanon and from there handed over to the Lebanese army. *AP*

Israel, Lebanon tell EU of desire to lower tension

Israel and Lebanon have told Miguel Moratinos, the European Union's special Middle East envoy, they want to reduce tensions along their border, a senior EU official said yesterday.

"The main message from both sides was that they wanted to avoid an escalation," said Bernardino Leon Groff, a senior adviser to Moratinos. He said Moratinos had spoken to Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Hoss and to Uri Lubrani, coordinator of activities in South Lebanon, by telephone on Monday. "We asked them to do their utmost to restore calm. We are trying to avoid an escalation of violence," Leon Groff said by telephone from Brussels. *Reuters*

IDF probes theft of army documents

Military police have opened an investigation into the theft of classified documents from the office of OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazy, the IDF said yesterday.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz said he believed there was no link between the stolen documents and Sunday's killing of Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein and three other soldiers by Hizbullah in a roadside bombing in south Lebanon. *Yediot Ahronot* said the stolen material was "top secret" and that the robbery took place three weeks ago, ahead of the recent escalation in the North. *Reuters*

Arabs ask Arafat to delay statehood declaration

Egypt and Jordan have asked Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to delay a planned declaration of statehood on May 4. They join Europe and the US.

Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said they "cite tactical reasons, that May 4 is a date that no longer serves the interest of the Palestinians."

But "any delay will have to come with guarantees," said Shaath.

One guarantee is a European commitment to recognize the Palestinian state once it is declared. *Reuters*

Security guard's gun accidentally discharges

A security guard's gun accidentally went off yesterday afternoon while he was sitting at a bus shelter down the block from Beit Hanassi. Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said the man was apparently drunk. The bullet hit and damaged the glass of the bus shelter. Police detained the guard for questioning. *Amy Klein*

Israel has 2.5 million licensed drivers

Israel has over two-and-a-half million licensed drivers, double the number 14 years ago, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday. The bureau said that at the end of 1998 there were 2,524,000 registered drivers, a 4.8 percent increase over 1997. Women constituted 38% of the registered drivers, as compared with 31% in 1997. There were, the bureau said, an average of 1.5 drivers per vehicle. *Huim Shapiro*

Hebron marks Purim with parade

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH



A Palestinian watches yesterday's Purim parade in Hebron. (Reuters)

The Hebron Jewish community and residents of Kiryat Arba celebrated Purim yesterday with their annual parade, as marchers dressed as cowboys, Arab shepherds, witches, Queen Esthers and wearing happy faces were escorted by a large IDF and Border Police contingent.

The parade, which set out from Tel Rumeida three-quarters-of-an-hour late, was led by a tractor-towed cart carrying a singer and organ player dressed in jelabiyas and fez hats, who sang and cheered the participants – and warned the children not to get too close to the tractor wheels.

"We decided not to cancel the parade because of what happened in Lebanon," said Baruch Marzel.

However he said the late start of the parade, due to delays in police cordoning off the route, was a shame.

"Five years after the signing of Oslo and even here we cannot spontaneously dance in the streets on Purim," he said.

During the 90-minute procession, marchers slowly made their way toward the Machpela Cave, handing out *mishloah manot* food packages to the troops stationed along the route.

The army closed off the side roads linking up with the route and prevented Palestinians from entering the area. But Palestinians already along the route were not ordered out, and many stopped to stare at the colorful procession.

A woman dressed in a grey tailored suit handed out a report to the foreign press, which she said was based on the Shamgar Commission findings on the 1994 Machpela Cave massacre by Baruch Goldstein.

She claimed the report proved that the IDF knew about Goldstein's intentions and did nothing.

Several times along the route, the procession stopped to allow groups of men to dance in the street before it continued.

Hebron-area commander Col. Yigal Sharon walked alongside the marchers and spoke with them. A soldier approached him and asked if he could take a sip of wine for Purim, but Sharon told the soldier it would be inappropriate.

Outside the Machpela Cave, the parade came to a halt, and participants danced on the road before going in for refreshments at the Gutnick Center.

The parade passed without any hitches, much to the relief of the security forces. Then several IDF soldiers had to race towards the casbah after receiving a report that stones were being thrown at soldiers there.

Amy Klein adds:

As the rest of the country reveled in Purim festivities yesterday, Jerusalemites were still preparing for their celebration today.

Little fairies, butterflies, clowns and firechildren clutched their mother's hands as they marched through the Ben-Yehuda pedestrian mall in the center of town. Peak traffic in town centered on the toy stores and "bazaars" where there was much shouting and haggling over last-minute costume purchases. Also mobbed were candy and gift stores, where customers loaded up on *mishloah manot* goodies.

Jerusalem police had already begun beefing up security in the downtown area, and in shopping centers like the Jerusalem Mall and Mahaneh Yehuda.

Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said police will be on the lookout for drunk drivers as well as terrorists.

Closure due to be lifted tonight

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

The closure imposed on Judea, Samaria and Gaza is expected to be lifted tonight at midnight if the calm prevails, IDF officials said yesterday.

Until the end of the Purim holiday, however, police, border policemen and soldiers will continue to maintain a beefed-up presence in the major cities, focusing on high-traffic areas such as central bus stations and shopping malls.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens ordered the closure last Saturday night after accepting the recommendations of the security authorities, who had received concrete information on planned terrorist attacks inside Israel during the holiday. During the closure, Palestinian laborers from the territories were to be prevented from entering Israel, but there were reports of workers getting in despite the restrictions.

Security forces manning roadblocks were instructed to allow entry on humanitarian grounds or for urgent medical reasons.

Amman embassy guard dies of his wounds

By DANNA HARMAN

Geffen Yosef Sorek, the security guard shot at the Israeli embassy in Amman last week, died yesterday in Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Twenty-three-year old Geffen, who had recently finished his army service and had been working as a security guard for El Al for less than a month, was accidentally shot in the chest in a joint El Al-embassy training exercise in the embassy compound.

After the accident Geffen was taken – in critical condition – to a hospital in Amman where he was operated on. After his situation was somewhat stabilized he was transferred to Jerusalem. Geffen never regained consciousness and died yesterday afternoon.

The senior embassy security guard who shot Geffen was returned to Israel and put on unpaid leave. The Foreign Ministry, meanwhile, has transferred the investigation of the event to the police. He will be buried at 4:30p.m. today in Haifa.

Report: Two of the Kurds killed at Israel Berlin mission shot in head

BERLIN (Reuters) – Two of the four Kurds killed by security guards during a protest last month at the Israeli consulate in Berlin were shot in the head, a German newspaper said yesterday.

Israel said last week its guards had fired in the air and at the legs of the group of Kurds who stormed the mission after reports – denied by Israel – that Israeli agents had helped Turkey capture Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan in Kenya.

Three of the demonstrators were killed at the scene, while a fourth, Sinan Karakus, died later of his wounds. Citing autopsy reports and hospital sources, the *Berliner Zeitung* said two of the dead, one an 18-year-old girl, had died of head wounds.

Of the 16 surviving victims, one was shot in the upper thigh and the others had stomach and shoulder wounds, the daily said, citing the same sources.

A spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in Bonn would only refer to the statement it issued last week on the matter, where it said Israeli security officers had acted in self-defense and "fulfilled all the relevant directives".

The embassy would not comment on the reports of head wounds.

Delil Can, a spokesman for the Kurdistan press service in Berlin, told Reuters: "The relatives of Sinan Karakus told us that he died of head wounds. Eyewitnesses also said there had there had been head-wound victims, but we only know of one case."

Teachers begin wage talks, demand 'emergency plan to save education'

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Seeking "an emergency plan to save education," the Teachers Union yesterday launched an information campaign among its 106,000 teachers and parents of pupils designed to push their demands for improvements in the education system.

The campaign is timed to coincide with the teachers' negotiations with the Treasury over a new wage contract. The teachers' previous contract expired at the end of 1998.

The two sides met yesterday afternoon in Jerusalem.

Among the teachers' demands are a reduction in class size, a standard number of hours for every school, an end to continuing cutbacks, and improvement of the physical conditions of the schools.

The teachers are also seeking significant advancement in their status and salaries.

"We in the Teachers Union have come to the conclusion that all the political parties are exploiting the election campaign to promise 'high priority' to education, but in reality the system is collapsing, and the salaries of all those who work in education in Israel are being significantly eroded," a spokesman for the teachers said.

Union secretary-general Avraham Ben-Shabbat warned that if the Treasury continues to drag out contract negotiations, the union will be forced to use all measures at its disposal, up to and including a strike.

Ben-Shabbat and union officials claim that the education budget has been cut, in real terms, by a billion shekels in the past year; that classes of 40 or more pupils are common; and that a teacher with a BA in her third year of teaching earns NIS 3,500 gross.

A Finance Ministry spokesman said the teachers are "trying to strike the schools without having to be blamed for it," and that they were "exploiting the coming elections."

The spokesman said the two sides had agreed in advance on a series of dates for ongoing negotiations, so there was no validity to the claim of Treasury foot-dragging.

Brig.-Gen. Gerstein buried

Israeli and South Lebanese Army soldiers walked shoulder-to-shoulder at Kibbutz Reshafim yesterday at the funeral of Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, the head of the IDF's Liaison Unit to south Lebanon.

The three other victims of the attack, Gerstein's driver, Chief Warrant Officer Imad Abu Rish, 34; his radio operator, St.-Sgt. Omer Alkabetz, 22; and Ilan Roeh, 32, Israel Radio's veteran northern reporter, were buried on Monday.

The 38-year-old brigadier-general was the highest-ranking officer to be killed in combat in Lebanon since 1982.

Soldiers lowered his flag-draped coffin while his wife sobbed quietly on a chair at the edge of the grave. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu laid a wreath on Gerstein's grave but did not speak at the funeral. Other wreaths had condolence messages in Arabic.

"Israel will continue with its mission on the northern border in the security zone as long as necessary, strong and determined," said IDF chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz.

"He was a legend in his own time and that's how he'll be remembered," Defense Minister Moshe Arens said in a graveside eulogy.

"There was no one like Erez. He was like a father to us. He cared for us. All the residents of south Lebanon are crying for Erez. They closed their schools and stores in honor of him," said an SLA commander who gave his name as Fara.

Gerstein, who at one time commanded the Golani Brigade which has borne the brunt of Hizbullah attacks, spoke out in recent years against an unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon.

"This country lost someone who truly loved the land and was its best fighter and I simply lost a brother," said Gerstein's sister, Ofra.

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

GRAPES

Continued from Page 1

"I think we are moving toward solutions," he said. "But I won't detail here what these solutions are."

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz said that the IDF doesn't want to escalate tensions in the North. "We don't want to come to a situation in which we harm civilians and cause an escalation and a deterioration in the situation," Mofaz said after meeting with Golani Brigade troops in the security zone.

"The policy of the IDF is first of all to fight against Hizbullah and to adhere to the mission the country has given the IDF, and that is to defend the residents of the North and its border. We are initiating and attacking and we will react," Mofaz said.

He said that the air strikes delivered a "hard blow" to Hizbullah and that the IDF would continue with offensive actions in Lebanon "as long as it's needed."

Last night, Hizbullah shelled IDF positions in the western sector of the security zone. There were no injuries, but one outpost was slightly damage, military sources said. They said IDF artillery returned fire. There were no reports of Hizbullah casualties.

Hizbullah said it hit an IDF radar outpost near the border and a vehicle near the outpost of Dlaat.

In Tyre, Hizbullah buried one of its fighters in a public funeral, a sign that it did not fear renewed attacks.

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazy, meanwhile, flatly denied a banner headline report in Yediot Aharonot that top secret information stolen from his headquarters was in any way connected to the roadside bombing which killed four people on Sunday, including Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, commander of the IDF liaison unit in Lebanon.

"A computer and disks which have nothing to do with routine operations were stolen. I regret the article came out as it did," Ashkenazy told reporters. "I can say unequivocally that there was nothing there connected to Erez or the liaison unit or security operations."

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Rotary Club will not take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Happy Purim.

The law firm of Haim Zadok & Co.
partners, associates and staff
extend their heartfelt condolences
and share in the grief of
Advocate Alexander A. Spinrad
on the passing of his
Father

We deeply mourn the loss of our beloved father
Dr. JACOB ZEV SEEMAN ז"ל
His children: Giselle Seeman
Sue Oliver
Chaim (Victor) Seeman
Ely Seeman
Dani Seeman
Please call 02-583-2924 for funeral details.
Shiva will be at 149 Rehov Rahmilevitz, Pisgat Ze'ev, Jerusalem

The Israel Center for
Social & Economic Progress
mourns the passing of its dear friend
Sir EMMANUEL KAYE
a great friend of Israel and humanitarian.
Our hearts go out to all the family.
Daniel Doron
Director

With great sorrow and affection, we announce the passing of
SYDNEY LEVY ז"ל
on Purim (March 2, 1999) at the age of 95.
Brenda and Theo Kaplan, Haifa
Shirli and Danny Kaplan, Noga, Guy and Naama, Omer
Judith and Jonathan Aires, Netanella, Elisheva, Miriam and Eliashiv, Jerusalem
Ruthe and Yonny Roth and David, Kibbutz Ketura
The funeral will be held on Wednesday, March 3 at Sde Yehoshua, Gate 3 (Brosh), Haifa.
Shiva at the Kaplan family, 48 Rehov Vitkin, Ahuza, Haifa.

We deeply regret to announce the death of our mother, grandmother and great grandmother
MILLIE JUDELMAN
on March 2, 1999
Ben-Yehuda and Yadin families
The funeral will take place at Kibbutz Ma'ayan Baruch on Wednesday, March 3, 1999 at 3 p.m.

We mourn the passing of our beloved father
Prof. MORDECAI WILENSKY ז"ל
Son: Uri Wilensky
Daughter-in-law: Donna Woods
Grandson: Daniel Wilensky
Shiva (until Sunday morning, March 7) at 4 Rehov Vashitz, Jerusalem. Tel. 02-673-6638

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Barak pledges to get IDF out of Lebanon, attacks 'bogged down' PM

By DANNA HARMAN

With quiet restored to the northern border yesterday, the Lebanese problem moved into the political arena.

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, following up on comments he made Monday night, reiterated his commitment to have the IDF out of Lebanon by June 2000. He also attacked Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's approach to the problem, saying he is "running after the mosquitoes," instead of working to "dry up the swamp."

"Netanyahu is leading a government that is bogged down in every field. You need guts to move this issue, to start going forward and stop this incessant jabbering," he said.

Labor MK Yossi Beilin took the criticism further, saying that Netanyahu had proven once again that "he has no vision for solving the Lebanese problem... A vote for him is a vote for remaining in the bloody trap that is Lebanon. In contrast to the picture Netanyahu is trying to paint, the Lebanese question is a political one of the first order, and the elections will clearly show if the people want to give Barak the mandate to leave Lebanon, or give it to Netanyahu to stay there."

Barak said Labor's plan for Lebanon includes three points: renewing talks with Syria, changing tactics in south Lebanon, and coordinating with the international community for diplomatic support, and a possibility for stationing international forces in southern Lebanon.

Netanyahu lashed back at Barak, arguing that he is trying to make electoral gain out of the sorry situation, and that he is the "last person in the world" to be giving advice on Lebanon, as it was he who had entangled Israel there in the first place.

"It was he who brought about the Grapes of Wrath understandings – bad arrangements which had the IDF for the first time recognizing Hizbullah's right to hit at our soldiers and, at the same time, bound the IDF's arms and reined it its ability to hit back within the towns and villages," Netanyahu told Army Radio.

Later on Channel 2, the prime minister called on Barak to meet with him and the relevant security officials to present his plans if, in the premier's words, they're serious plans and not just an election gimmick.

In response, Barak said the prime minister "knows my telephone number" and would agree to meet him if asked, "even though no one believes in him. He had three years to hold negotiations and improve the situation, but no one did anything." Barak also termed Netanyahu's offer as "television leadership"

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid also entered the fray, saying that the return of the Golan was the price Israel will have to pay for peace on the Lebanese border. "When Menachem Begin went to negotiate with Egypt, and announced ahead of time that he was willing to retreat from all of Sinai, people came to him with complaints. I didn't have any complaints. That was the obvious price we had to pay," said Sarid.

"The situation is the same with Lebanon. We could have an agreement within months, it does not have to be put on hold until we have a comprehensive peace with Syria. But, we need to come to terms with the fact that there is a real price to pay. The price is an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights – with needed security arrangements.

Liat Collins adds:

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav said Barak is harming Israel by turning the Lebanon issue into election propaganda. Katsav, who is head of the Likud campaign headquarters, said Barak is trying to turn Lebanon into a political issue along party lines, even though all parties are interested in safely leaving south Lebanon. He said the cabinet had discussed the matter, together with members of the security establishment, and decisions would be taken not out of political considerations, but according to the diplomatic and security situation.

Weizman calls for Lebanon 'deadline'

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Israel's new government, irrespective of who heads it, will have to negotiate a solution to the situation in Lebanon, President Ezer Weizman reiterated yesterday.

"The best thing would be for the government to give itself a deadline, say of a year," Weizman said.

He said he agreed with the approach of Labor leader Ehud Barak on this question. "Fixing a target date for this is something positive. We should try to do it within one year," Weizman said.

"When there is a target date and people are working under pressure, this helps," he said, adding that Barak had said the same thing earlier in the day.

"The next prime minister will have to continue with peace negotiations and I believe they will not move forward without Syria," Weizman added.

The president was speaking following condolence visits to the families of St.-Sgt. Omer Alkabetz and Israel Radio reporter Ilan Roeh, who were killed by a Hizbullah roadside bomb in south Lebanon on Sunday.

Weizman came out in favor of setting a year-long deadline for a withdrawal on Sunday, shortly after the incident in which the commander of the IDF's liaison unit Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein and his driver Chief Warrant Officer Imad Abu Rish were also killed.



Students distribute Purim 'mishloah manot' to soldiers at the Metulla border crossing yesterday. (Avihu Shapira/Israel Sun)

ELECTIONS

notebook

Center Party works on platform

The center party leaders met yesterday to begin the process of clarifying their party platform. Yesterday's meeting to discuss foreign affairs, security and the peace process – was the first of three such scheduled meetings. The next two meetings will concentrate, respectively, on law and justice and on economy and social affairs.

The Center Party has set up 15 so-called "think teams," whose role is to work on an array of areas and come up with position papers on the party's agenda. Uri Savir, who coordinated all the teams, and David Agmon, who is in charge of the security and defense team, presented some of the group's conclusions to party leaders Yitzhak Mordechai, Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Dan Meridor and Roni Milo yesterday at the party headquarters.

Savir said that the briefing, which was cut short due to Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein's funeral, was broad-based and many specifics of the platform were not discussed. He confirmed that there was some disagreement about the wording of different sections of the platform, but said that there was general agreement about the main points. *Danna Harman*

Bloc in Gesher returns to Likud

More than 20 heads of Gesher branches who last month moved over to the Center Party have announced they are returning to the Likud. Others have said they will not support Labor even if David Levy does sign an agreement to join Ehud Barak's One Israel movement.

"The Likud is more serious in everything concerning social issues and security," said one of the Gesher members, Michel Ben-Ami, in a television interview.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem councilor Yigal Amedi who on Monday announced he would be staying in the Likud after all has been appointed head of the electoral campaign in the capital. Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav who heads the national Likud campaign headquarters said Amedi's decision to remain in the Likud had nothing to do with this position which is only for the limited three months period. *Liat Collins*

Netanyahu visits Yosef

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu last night paid a Purim visit to Shas spiritual mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef. Yosef's son, David, told reporters that "I am wholeheartedly and openly in favor of Netanyahu... He has tried hard in his years in office even if he has not succeeded." *Liat Collins*

Tsomet to split from Likud

The remainder of the Tsomet Knesset faction – leader Rafael Eitan and Haim Dayan – is to separate from the joint list with the Likud tomorrow at a Knesset House Committee meeting. The move will give the two NIS 2.6 million in campaign funding.

Eliezer Zandberg has already moved to the Center Party. Moshe Peled has joined Moledet, but the law prohibits one MK from leaving to form another faction.

Tsomet has announced it will run independently for the time being, in an apparent attempt to get a better offer for slots on the Likud list. Tsomet recently held elections for the bottom of its list, while Eitan is to pick the top five soon. *Nina Gilbert*

Meretz stops giving 'hamsas'

Shas has no basis for complaining to the Central Elections Committee about the distribution of *hamsas* with a prayer for the home, since the item "is not an amulet but only a legitimate promotional act in the form of a postcard," Meretz said in its response to the committee.

At the same time, Meretz said it has halted distribution of the *hamsas* "to set an example for other parties to ensure that the elections are kept clean, cultured and fair." The *hamsas*, signed by Meretz MK Ran Cohen, were distributed in Jerusalem's Katamonim area, as the party aims to attract voters who are public housing residents. Cohen authored the Public Housing Law passed by the Knesset, which led the government to initiate a limited program to sell the homes to residents, while freezing Cohen's plan for two years.

Judge Eliahu Mazza is to hear the complaint tomorrow. *Nina Gilbert*

Arafat denies intervening in election

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday that he would not interfere in the Israeli elections but is encouraged that the peace camp has grown with the advent of the Center Party.

Arafat met in Ramallah with Labor MK Sallah Tarif.

The Druse MK said Arafat is upset by reports from the Right in Israel that it is only to help Labor win the elections that he is acting to prevent terror attacks in the pre-election period. He said the Palestinian Authority is committed to the agreements it has signed and has acted to thwart terror and noted that Hamas leaders Sheikh Ahmed Yassin and Abdul Aziz Rantisi were arrested without any connection to the elections.

"He said he is sorry there are all sorts of slogans that the prime minister is using for election purposes in contravention of agreements and understandings he reached," Tarif said. *Liat Collins*

Secret plans and campaign promises

ANALYSIS

By SAM LEHMAN-WILZIG

Ehud Barak's promise to "get the boys out of Lebanon within a year of being elected prime minister" has raised the campaign temperature, even during the usually dormant Purim period. This was not so much because of what he said, but rather due to what he didn't say. The promise came in a very broad brushstroke of "first we get the Syrian negotiations going and then..."

Over 30 years ago, Richard Nixon announced that he had a "secret plan" to get American troops out of Vietnam. Never mind that after his election, Nixon promptly proceeded to get the US more heavily involved in neighboring Cambodia. As an election ploy, it worked. He won by the slimmest of margins in a country split down the middle. Sound familiar?

But the parallel is not altogether correct, for Barak really does have a plan, and it almost certainly includes major concessions to the Syrians and ironclad guarantees provided by the Lebanese Army (far stronger today than during the early 1980s). Moreover, one cannot expect any candidate to spell out in detail the intended policy, for that would undermine our bargaining position in negotiations with the other side (they'd know what our limits are, but we wouldn't know theirs).

Barak or any other candidate for prime minister must walk a very fine line. On the one hand, it is completely legitimate to bring up an issue as important as staying in Lebanon during an election campaign. One could even say that it is mandatory to do so, for if not about issues as weighty as this, then what is the campaign all about? Pure sound and fluff?

Binyamin Netanyahu is wrong to claim that Barak is "politicizing" such a "national issue." It may be "national," but it certainly isn't consensual.

On the other hand, the way it is presented must be carefully thought out. It can't be a mere slogan ("I have a plan"), but it also can't be too detailed a plan. The public isn't always interested in the details and certainly can't weigh the pros and cons of such fine print, not to mention the enemy, which would love to know just what Barak has in mind.

Of course, tactically Barak has taken a political gamble that coming down on the side of "getting out" is what the voters want. But as noted above, he's correct on one point: If a candidate can't offer alternatives to the way the present government is doing things, then who needs the election?

The writer is chairman of the Israel Political Science Association, and coordinator of the Communications Program at Bar-Ilan University's Department of Political Studies.

Hendel, Porat set to leave NRP tomorrow

By NINA GILBERT

MKs Zvi Hendel and Hanan Porat are likely to split from the National Religious Party tomorrow and announce they are joining Tekuma.

The two have filed a request with the Knesset House Committee, due to be heard tomorrow, to be recognized as a separate Knesset faction. If the two leave the NRP, they will take with them some NIS 2.6 million in campaign funding and television time for election propaganda.

Tekuma, meanwhile, is in an advanced stage of negotiations on a joint list with Herut and Moledet.

Yesterday, Herut said the talks are basically on hold until Porat and Hendel make a decision. Hendel could risk being situated in an unrealistic spot if he joins the far right joint list. He won the No. 7 slot in the NRP's central committee elections last week.

The move to separate came after the new top six NRP candidates failed to agree on forwarding a proposal to the central committee on changing the list. Fearing a loss of Knesset seats to the far right party, party leader Yitzhak Levy tried to suggest the addition of a candidate, such as Haim Druckman, that could help ensure the support of both the rightist settler element in the party and the more religious sector.

The idea of moving Porat higher on the list was also considered.

However, the suggestions were opposed by the moderates.

Porat won only the 11th slot, after rumors were spread in the moderate camp that he should be ousted for his role in pushing the government toward early elections.

Porat, a Greater Land of Israel icon, said he would leave the NRP if Hendel came with him. Hendel, who teamed with Porat in threatening to bring down the government, is a resident of Moshav Ganei Tal in the Gush Katif area of the Gaza Strip. Porat lives in Gush Etzion.

Party secretary-general Zevulun Orlev, who won the No. 4 slot, said yesterday that he opposes changes to the list that would affect "its political make-up and not the democratic decision of the committee."

The idea of making changes to the list "is no longer relevant," he said. "A great majority of the central committee would oppose any changes."

A Levy aide agreed yesterday that "the chances of changing the list are slim." He added that Levy has basically come to terms with the present list.

At the same time, he said Hendel had only filed the request for tomorrow, since it is the deadline for leaving the faction. "This does not necessarily mean that he has made the decision to leave," he said, adding that it is more like an insurance policy.

On the other hand, he said, "Porat has already made it clear that he is leaving the list and the party."

If Hendel leaves, it would result in the NRP taking on even a more moderate makeup.

Moderate MK Eli Gabai, currently No. 9, will likely take the seventh slot, with Shmaryahu Ben-Tzur moving to No. 9.

Gila Finkelstein came in 11th, but was moved to the eighth slot reserved for a woman.

Meanwhile, the NRP is to launch its election campaign on Sunday.

Labor to ratify One Israel tomorrow

By DANNA HARMAN

The Labor Party's central committee is scheduled to convene tomorrow to ratify the agreements drawn up between Labor, Meimad and Gesher. No real objections to the deals are expected, which means that Ehud Barak's "One Israel" will formally come into existence as of tomorrow.

Those Labor members who had originally spoken out against bringing in outside parties and personalities have, in recent days, toned down their opposition. Micha Goldman, number 27 on the Labor list – who will be pushed down to number 31 after the Meimad and Gesher candidates are brought in - said that Barak had promised the discontented Labor members that no more spots would be given away to outsiders. "Barak made this promise to us, and therefore we decided to tone down the volume," he said.

The agreement with Gesher, which was hammered out this week between Barak, Haim Ramon and David Levy, stipulates that Levy come in as number three, while his brother Maxim be placed between 20 and 30. A third Gesher member – Yehuda Lankri, will also be given a spot between 20 and 30, with the understanding that he will resign that seat in exchange for an ambassadorial position to France if Labor wins.

Meimad, in turn, will be given three seats – with its candidates slotted in at seats 17, 33 and 38. In addition it has been promised a ministry to be taken by an appointee from outside the Knesset. It has requested Education.



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NEWS
in brief

120 new immigrants arrive from Tashkent

Some 120 new immigrants arrived from Tashkent this week, part of a recent upsurge in the number of immigrants from Uzbekistan in the period before Pessah. The increase has led El Al to consider having flights from the Far East stop in Tashkent.

Meanwhile, 13 students from Russia, Ukraine and Lithuania arrived yesterday at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem for a month-long program of Jewish studies. The "Ashnab" program the students – all involved in advanced Jewish studies in their home campuses – are participating in is sponsored by the university, the Joint Distribution Committee-Israel and the Jewish Agency. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Swiss extremists' immunity not lifted

The upper house of the Swiss parliament voted 27-15 not to lift the parliamentary immunity of Rudolf Keller, president of the far-right Swiss Democratic Party, who last year called for a boycott of Jewish and American goods, the newspaper *Neue Zuercher Zeitung* reported yesterday. Keller was accused of incitement to racial hatred, which is against Swiss law. In December, the Swiss National Council voted 94-45 to lift his immunity. The Swiss Democrats, who have only a handful of seats in the council, called for the boycott after American public finance officials threatened sanctions against Swiss banks over hoarding Holocaust-era dormant accounts. The upper house of Parliament also would be able to overrule any subsequent attempt by the lower house to lift Keller's immunity, *NZZ* said. *Marilyn Henry*

Swiss Holocaust payments held up

Israeli Holocaust survivors are still waiting to receive payments from a Swiss humanitarian fund because of government red tape, Jewish leaders and government officials said yesterday.

"In most countries, the handouts began a long time ago. Sadly, only in the State of Israel has the division been held up and we have no idea when it will begin," said Wolf Factor, chairman of the Foundation for the Benefit of Holocaust victims in Israel.

A spokesman for the Finance Ministry said approval of operational costs to begin distributing $59 million to some 60,000 needy survivors of the estimated 350,000 total living in Israel is being held up in the Knesset Finance Committee. *Reuters*

Health Ministry halts funding at institution

The Health Ministry has stopped subsidizing the care of residents in the Hemdat Avot nursing home in Haifa, after an 89-year-old male occupant fell to his death from a second-floor balcony recently. Staff from the district health office went to investigate the next day, and are looking at the circumstances of the tragedy, the quality of care and the possibility of a system failure in the institution. For the time being, residents' care will not be subsidized until the investigation is completed, the ministry said. *Judy Siegel*

Free health checks at Malha Mall next week

Medical specialists from Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem will perform free health checks at Jerusalem's Malha Mall this coming Monday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The physicians, accompanied by nurses, will check eyesight, cholesterol and blood pressure in an effort organized by Hadassah-Israel. Women will also be able to sign up for a free manual breast exam at Hadassah's Straus Clinic. Proceeds from sales of products at the mall will benefit the hospital's pediatric oncology department. *Judy Siegel*

San Francisco sponsoring gay mission here

In an effort to reach out to Jewish gays and lesbians in the Bay area, the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation is sponsoring its first "Journey of Pride" mission to Israel, the Northern California Jewish Bulletin reports in its latest issue.

The 10-day mission in April, timed to Yom Hashoah and Yom Hazikaron, is intended "to show gay and lesbian Jews that Israel is a country where there is everything for everybody," Dr. Sam Tucker, a San Francisco psychiatrist, told the newspaper. The mission will include the usual spots, such as the Kotel, Masada, and Yad Vashem. *Marilyn Henry*

Experts urge water cooperation

By BEN LYNFIELD

One might expect that hydrologists from an area that goes without running water most summer days would diverge sharply in approach from those representing a country with water available all the time – especially if their nations have been at war for most of the last fifty years.

Yet Israeli, Palestinian, and Jordanian water specialists, joined by American scientists, yesterday issued a report they hope will promote regional cooperation in grappling with a worsening problem: water scarcity.

"One cannot afford to talk about the water issue in a very narrow perspective or nationalistic context," said Ayman Rabi, of the Jerusalem-based Palestinian Hydrology Group, and a contributor to the report, "Only real scientific cooperation can provide the necessary information to scientists and planners."

The 226-page report emerged from cooperation between the US National Academy of Sciences, the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan, the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, and the Palestine Academy for Science and Technology.

It covers Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian areas, and stresses the link between safeguarding the environment and maintaining the water supply. It also explores options for managing water demand and supply.

The specialists rule out desalination as economically unfeasible, and they weigh up other options, ranging from cloud seeding to the use of brackish water for salinity tolerant crops to expanding the use of rooftop cisterns in the region.

The report is delicate in its treatment of a major bone of contention: That per capita use of water in Israel is more than three times that in the West Bank and Gaza Strip – 344 cubic meters per year compared with 94 cubic meters per year.

One of the concerns for future generations, says the report, will be "achieving greater equity in the distribution of water throughout the area," without elaborating on how to go about this.

"We didn't want to jeopardize our work by getting into this issue as scientists, but indirectly the message comes across," said PA Minister of Environment Yousif Abu Safiyeh, a water specialist who participated in the study.

Uriel Safriel, from the Blaustein Institute for Desert Research of Beersheba's Ben-Gurion University, said: "The committee showed that the experts can cooperate in assessing the situation regarding water resources. All we can aspire to is that the decision-makers take this as an example."

Authors of the report discussed their work Monday during a meeting with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Judy Siegel adds:

The heads of the Israeli and Palestinian science academies have decided to cooperate by promoting joint projects. This was announced yesterday in a joint press conference in Ramallah which also included representatives of science academies in the US and Jordan.

Prof. Ya'acov Ziv, the head of Israel's science academy, said an agreement had been reached to include Palestinian physics students in Israeli projects such as electronic particle acceleration. In addition, Palestinians and Israelis will cooperate in the field of nutritional supplements.

Dr. Fathi Arafat, president of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and Yasser Arafat's brother, said he wants to encourage Palestinian scientists who emigrated to return and work in fields here.

Ziv presented his academy's first volume on flora in the area to the Palestinian academy's future library, which will be built in Ramallah.

Ariel mayor opposes unmonitored PA water plant

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Ariel Mayor Ron Nahman has threatened to halt construction work on a purification plant being built by the Palestinian Authority and funded by a German company in the town of Salfit if the Palestinians refuse to let Israeli authorities monitor the plant after it is built. Infrastructure work has begun at the site which is being built at the edge of Ariel's western neighborhood.

Ariel spokeswoman Zehava Hadar said Nahman has attempted to reach some kind of solution with the PA for over a year. The mayor is currently abroad and is due to return in a week's time.

"Ron fears that if the plant's operation is not monitored by Israeli authorities, the sewage will seep into Ariel. The plant is being built on the western side of Ariel and hasn't received building permission from the Civil Administration," she said.

Jamal Saleh, deputy mayor of Kifl Harith, a village situated next to Ariel, said the project is urgently needed.

"Ron Nahman doesn't want the Palestinians to work on any project, whether it's building houses or water plants. He only wants the confinement of the Palestinians and the expansion of Ariel," he said. *Ben Lynfield contributed to this report.*



WIZO members march for new center

Dozens of British WIZO members, here to attend the triennial WIZO conference, head out yesterday on the 'WIZO Walk of Hope.' The march is being held to raise funds for a proposed WIZO center in Petah Tikva. The two-day trek began near Moshav Beit Meir and ends in Petah Tikva. The planned center is to provide various social services and offer an array of courses. (Avi Hayoun)

Environment Ministry considers suing Tel Aviv over sewage leaks

By LIAT COLLINS

Environment Ministry Director-General Roni Komar has ordered an investigation into the sewage spills in the Tel Aviv area to see if there is reason to prosecute under the Marine Pollution Prevention Law. He also noted that the two latest cases in which sewage flowed onto Tel Aviv beaches were not reported by the municipality to the Environment Ministry as required by law.

Initial investigation shows that on Thursday a contractor working for the Tel Aviv municipality in the area of the new promenade hit a sewage pipe. As a result sewage flowed from the pipeline into the sea for three days before the problem was fixed Sunday evening.

On Monday, sewage reached the Trumpeldor Beach because of a blockage in a sewage pipe which then overflowed onto the street and from there reached the sea.

Komar ordered the ministry's marine anti-pollution unit to investigate the two cases. "It is inconceivable that sewage should be allowed to freely flow into the sea and the authorities can't even be bothered to inform the ministry or fix the problem," Komar said.

The public was forbidden to bathe at Tel Aviv's beaches until further notice due to leaking sewage, the Health Ministry announced. The beaches will reopen only after lab tests of the water meet ministry criteria.

Health Ministry officials were shocked that the Tel Aviv Municipality had not reported to them about the leak in Jaffa last Thursday.

Head of the Tel Aviv Municipality Water Department David Jackman, told *Ma'ariv*, "Evidently, because of the pressure we faced surrounding the burst pipe, we forgot to notify the Health Ministry. Our mistake."

Meanwhile, the Society for the Preservation of Historic Sites – a part of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel – and the Avshalom Institute for Land of Israel Studies and the Israeli Society for the Study of the Napoleonic Period are today hosting tours of the old port in Jaffa and there will be a discussion on the future of the area.

The tours and activities are scheduled between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. The events mark 200 years since Napoleon's army conquered Jaffa and will focus on threats to the area by real estate development plans.

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Ministry rejects coverage for osteoporosis drug

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry's decision not to include Fosalan, a highly effective anti-osteoporosis drug, in the basket of services supplied by the health funds, could mean that more than 20,000 women who need it but can't afford it will find it is still out of their reach.

The ministry's decision was criticized yesterday by Sophie Karnowski, director of the Israeli branch of Fosalan producer Merck, Sharpe & Dohme. She said the decision, which still needs cabinet approval, is "very unfortunate for women and sends negative signals that new treatment options are not being taken into account."

Fosalan, generically known as sodium alendronate, is provided by health insurance providers in nearly all Western countries and regarded as a highly cost-effective medication.

According to the first annual report of the ministry's ombudsman, Dr. Karni Rubin-Jabotinsky, which was issued nearly a year ago, a Hadassah-University Hospital expert on osteoporosis called Fosalan "a breakthrough medication for preventing and treating" the bone-thinning disease, which affects mostly middle-aged and elderly women.

Brittle bones result in hip fractures that – if they don't kill within a year – can cause severe disability, requiring expensive rehabilitation or long-term nursing care.

Although hormone replacement therapy can reduce the risk of osteoporosis, it can also increase the risk of breast cancer and most menopausal women won't take it.

The health funds now charge patients NIS 145 a month for Fosalan, which is what they pay Merck for the drug. Several thousand Israeli women take it daily, but osteoporosis experts estimate that over 20,000 more need it.

If it were in the basket of services, patients would have to pay only 10% of the cost, with the health funds covering the rest.

Ministry spokesman Yoram Malka refused to let reporters speak to any ministry official regarding which drugs were recently nominated for inclusion in the basket and which were turned down.

The Treasury allocated NIS 150 million to cover new drugs and technologies this year. A first list was approved a few months ago, but over NIS 35 million worth of drugs were still waiting for approval.

Among the other drugs rejected are Exelon and Aricept, which slow the development of Alzheimer's disease, and Herceptin, a breakthrough drug for treating advanced breast cancer.

Stowaway cat grounds El Al jet in Chicago

What does it take to hold up a giant El Al airliner for six-and-a-half hours? A cat.

An El Al Boeing 747-400 jumbo jet was about to take off from Chicago on a direct flight to Tel Aviv, when a stewardess spotted a cat peering down at her from the ceiling of the upper-deck galley, the El Al spokesman's office said yesterday.

The grey-with-white paws, mid-sized tom disappeared into the paneling before it could be brought down, but the crew could still hear it meowing Monday night.

"Is it safe to fly with the cat in there?" El Al asked the Boeing company. Boeing said no.

So the 225 passengers were transferred to other flights stopping over in Europe, and arrived in Israel five to six hours late, the spokesman's office said.

It took Chicago airport ground crews six-and-a-half hours to get the cat out and send the jet on its way home. *AP*

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Monica to bare all on Channel 1 tomorrow night

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Everything you always wanted to know about Monica Lewinsky's affair with President Bill Clinton but were afraid to ask is likely to emerge from the former White House intern's television interview, due to be broadcast by Channel 1 tomorrow night at 10:35.

Among questions to be answered in the interview by Great Britain's Channel 4 and being shown here just hours after it's aired abroad, according to the Israel Broadcasting Authority, are: Does she still love Bill Clinton? What was her reaction when she first saw the president? Did they love each other, or was it just sexual? What attracted her to the president? What was life like after their relationship? Why did she keep the blue dress? What would she say to Clinton if they were to meet again? The interview was conducted on February 21.

A second interview, with ABC-TV's Barbara Walters, was set to be aired in the US tonight. No plans have been announced to broadcast the Walters interview here, although there are reports that negotiations are underway to secure the rights.

Reports of cancelled tennis dates, parties, and other previously scheduled events have been heard as Israelis circle the date and time on their social calendars, with many expected to tune in to hear Lewinsky tell her tale.

Explaining the attraction of the interview, gossip columnist Michal Isaacs of the *Yerushalayim* weekly said: "Look, this story has all the ingredients of a great story. It's got scandal, which people like, whether they admit it or not, and the strongest man in the world is involved. Besides blood, this story has everything.

"Until now, we've never heard her side: Who is this girl? What can we learn about her character from such an interview? This whole incident is a matter of history, so it's likely there won't be too many people who will want to miss it, and at a later stage they'll buy the book."



Monica Lewinsky (AP)

However, she predicted that "after this [interview] part is over, the story will probably cool off, but this is an element that allows us to solve the puzzle about what happened in this case."

Echoing some of Isaacs's remarks, Carol Ben-Dor of Jerusalem said she plans to make sure to tape the interview "because I'm interested in seeing how she presents herself – what kind of person she is, if I can even find that out from an interview. Is she just out for money? I'd be curious to see how she comes off."

While she said that the rehashing of the story "has been too much for months already," Ben-Dor added she deserved a chance to tell her side of things, "but I wouldn't want her to be famous and rich because of this." She said she would let her older children watch the interview, but not the younger ones.

However, not everyone is rushing to see the interview. Helen Linden, of Jerusalem's Ramot neighborhood said she'd skip it "especially if it's on opposite *Ally McBeal*."

"Why can't the put this story to rest already? They found Clinton not guilty, it should be over. They're dragging it out and dragging it out. She's becoming the international slut of the world."

However Linden, who's British-born and said she's fed up with the whole Lewinsky affair, added jokingly that "an interview with Lady Di, of blessed memory, would be a different story."

Herzliya councilman found guilty of sexually abusing his stepson

By HEIDI J. GLEIT

A Herzliya City Council member was found guilty yesterday of sexually abusing his stepson. The stepson, who is now 26, told Tel Aviv District Court that he was abused from the time he was five, when the man married his mother, until he was 15.

At the beginning of the case at the end of 1997, the court issued a ban on the publication of his name and picture.

Due to the statute of limitations, Judges Natan Amit, Shelley Timan, and George Kara ruled that charges relating to offenses that occurred before January 19, 1986, were dropped, and the man was only convicted of forcing the stepson to allow him to perform indecent acts and of sodomizing the stepson from that date through the end of 1987.

The story came out after the stepson wrote a 22-page letter to his mother on April 24, 1997. He told his mother that her husband had abused him, and to, a lesser extent, her younger brother, and his sister's daughter. The stepson also admitted that, as a result of the man's actions, he had molested his sister and his neighbor's daughter and apologized for this.

"Today I feel that he took advantage of my innocence to satisfy his sexual impulses. He took advantage of my trust and my love for him, and his power over me as a parent. Not physical power, not power with force, but what I explained before: trust, love, a deeper understanding of life, the power to influence," the stepson wrote.

He also wrote that he understands that his stepfather abused him out of love, without intending to hurt him, but "after realizing this, for me [my stepfather] is dead."

In the letter, the stepson asked his mother if she had been aware of what had happened. She said that she had not known and she later divorced her husband.

From the time he was a child, his stepfather exposed him to pornography, spoke to him about sex, and molested him. When he was about 11, this abuse extended to involve two relatives who were about his age, the mother's younger brother and the stepfather's niece. On several occasions, the stepfather molested both of them in front of the stepson, and encouraged him to join in.

The abuse, which had occurred several times a month on a regular basis, ended when the stepson took steps to prevent his being left alone with his stepfather.



Delores Jordan presents Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav with a copy of a book about her son, basketball superstar Michael Jordan, during a visit to Jerusalem yesterday. (Ariel Jerozolimski/The Jerusalem Post)

Ministry to discourage use of pacifiers

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry will take action this year to discourage the use of baby pacifiers because they have been found in foreign studies to reduce infants' desire to breast-feed, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned. Hospitals will be instructed not to include a pacifier in the list of items new mothers should pack in their bag; family health (*tipat halav*) centers will advise mothers against giving them to their babies; and pacifiers will not be allowed to be included in companies' gift packages.

Ministry nutrition department head Dr. Dorit Nitzan Kaluski said she had heard of a new study at the University of Rochester in the US, published in the latest issue of *Pediatrics*, that links the two. The New York research backs up the results of three recent studies in Brazil that produced similar results.

According to the study of 265 breast-feeding mothers in upstate New York, babies who use pacifiers spend less time breast-feeding and are weaned an average of a month earlier; this may be convenient for the mother, but it isn't desirable for the baby's child's health, the researchers stated.

Infants who sucked on pacifiers were breast-fed eight times a day on average and spent less time overall on nursing, compared with nine times a day among babies not given the option of sucking an artificial nipple.

Wendy Blumfield, head of the Israel Center for Childbirth Education in Haifa, explained that "any sort of artificial nipple confuses the baby and disrupts its sucking instinct, especially during the first few months after birth. When sucking on a pacifier, they tend to use only the lips, rather than the jaw and back of the tongue that are needed for breast-feeding. So they feel they're sucking from a bottle, and it requires less effort on the baby's part."

Report: Lewinsky tells ABC of pain, attraction to Clinton

NEW YORK (AP) – Monica Lewinsky calls President Bill Clinton her "sexual soul mate," and insists in her ABC television interview that their relationship was about a "man and a woman, and not a president and an intern," the *Daily News* reported yesterday.

"We would talk, we would laugh, we would tell jokes," Lewinsky says. "He was very tender with me. He was very affectionate and I think you know when someone is attracted to you."

The Daily News said it had obtained a partial, unedited audio tape of the interview between the former White House intern and Barbara Walters that is to air on the TV news magazine *20/20* today. The network confirmed its authenticity.

The quotes indicate the discussion ranged from Lewinsky's childhood to the affair that led to Clinton's impeachment. She told Walters that she didn't feel cheap and refused to take responsibility for the 18-month relationship that began with a "small, subtle, flirtatious gesture."

Michael Jordan's mother 'prays' for son to visit Israel

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Visitors to the Tourism Ministry yesterday may well have been asking themselves why television cameramen and news photographers were tripping over each other, fighting to get a shot of a quiet, pleasant-looking, soft-spoken woman.

That she is Mrs. Delores Jordan did not explain much, but that she is the mother of US basketball superstar Michael Jordan explained everything. Jordan, who is on a visit arranged by Ophir Tours. Ami Travel of Chicago, and Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, was the subject of the press attention as she and her daughter, Roselyn, met with Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav.

In answer to reporters' shouted questions about the possibility of a visit to Israel by her famous son, Jordan said that she would pass on to him a letter of invitation from Katsav and pray that her son would accept it.

"We will pray about it," she said.

She cautioned the press about the superlatives lavished on her son. "Even Mom would say he's not as popular as God," she admonished reporters who repeatedly invoked such comparisons, according to AP.

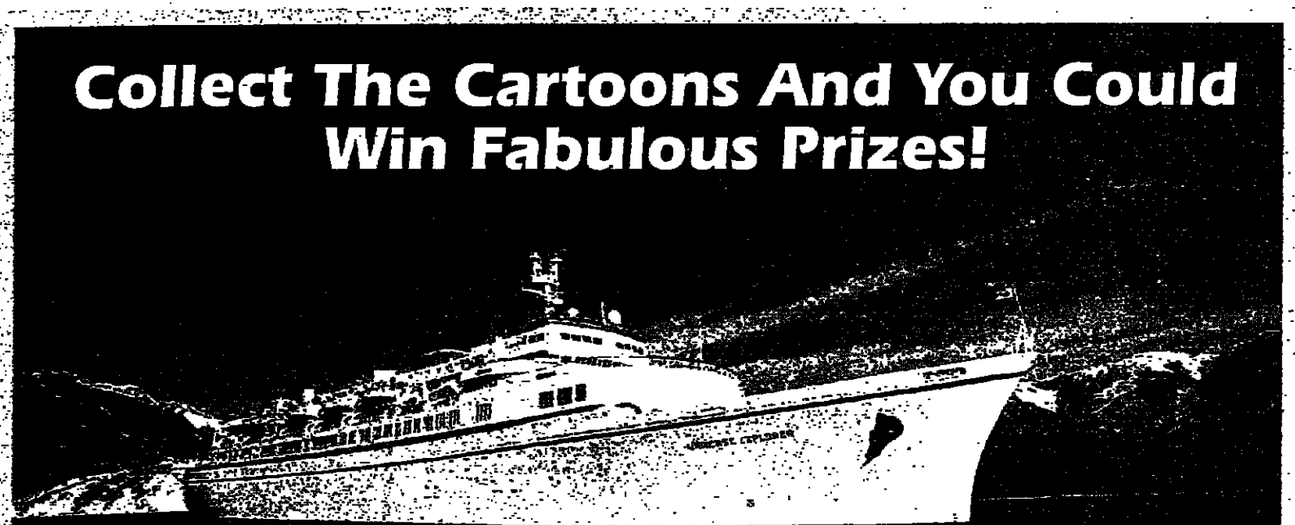
Delores Jordan, a celebrity in her own right, who has used her position as a famous mother to further a myriad of good causes, had nothing but praise for Israel.

"I love it, the people here are wonderful, the food is wonderful, they are taking care of me at the hotel," she said.

She has written two books: *Family First* and *Seven Principles of Parenting*. Jordan serves on the boards of over half a dozen philanthropic organizations and has been the recipient of numerous awards.

She has raised over $7 million for the Michael Jordan Foundation and the James Jordan Boys and Girls and Family Life Center, named after her late husband. She is to receive the Outstanding Mother of the Year Award from the National Mother's Day Committee and in October, she is to be in Israel again to receive the Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian Award from Shaare Zedek.

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Issue of consumer harm the crux of Microsoft trial

By RAJIV CHANDRASEKARAN

After all the unflattering e-mail messages, witness-stand backtracking and tactical missteps that have characterized Microsoft Corp.'s defense at its antitrust trial, the software giant may yet have a trump card in its hand: free Internet browsers.

Since the proceedings began in October, the federal government has presented reams of evidence to allege that the company illegally bullied rivals in an effort to hang on to a monopoly with its Windows operating system software and extend that clout into the browser market.



But when it comes to showing that the company actually injured consumers, many legal experts say the government's case is less convincing.

In two months of defense testimony that ended Friday, Microsoft argued strongly that however rough the company's tactics against browser rival Netscape Communications Corp. might seem, they resulted in both companies giving away millions of browsers, the Internet navigation programs that are at the heart of the case.

Consumer welfare is supposed to be what this trial is all about.

Under the law, anti-competitive tactics are bad mainly because they harm ordinary people, in the form of higher prices, less choice or poorer service. If that injury is not found, companies often walk.

"It's one of the weakest elements of the government's case and one of the strongest elements of Microsoft's defense," said William E. Kovacic, a former Federal Trade Commission attorney who now teaches here at George Washington University.

"The government has not introduced that much evidence to demonstrate that consumers are suffering grievous harm today at the hands of Microsoft."

WITH the case now in recess as both sides prepare rebuttal arguments, the issue of consumer harm appears to be a central question on the mind of US District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson, who is presiding over the non-jury trial.

Last week Jackson took the unusual step of asking a witness, Microsoft executive Joachim Kempin, to explain why he thought the integration of browsing software into the company's Windows 98 operating system – a practice targeted as illegal by the government – has "assisted the consumer."

Kempin had a ready answer: "We really simplified ... the usage of the system for the consumer."

The government, of course, contends it has presented strong evidence of consumer harm. Microsoft's conduct, the government argues, has limited people's choices of software on personal computers and hindered innovation in the technology industry.

The government does not contend that Microsoft might try to charge for browsers sometime in the future, but it does argue that company has steadily increased the price it charges PC makers to buy Windows.

Those increases, a government economist said, have been passed along to consumers.

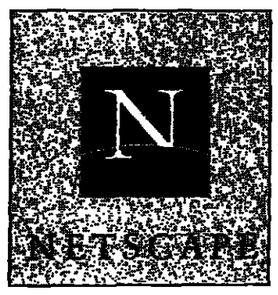
"Microsoft has raised prices, restricted choice and stifled innovation to the detriment of consumers," government attorney David Boies said.

Although consumer groups have not been paying great attention to the case, they generally have allied themselves with the government. The Consumer Federation of America, for example, contends that Microsoft has amassed billions in excess profit through monopolistic overcharging.

Microsoft's general counsel, William H. Neukom, doesn't just dispute these contentions. He argues that Microsoft's business practices are a boon to computer users. Browsers are not only free, but ever-more capable, he says. And he maintains that Windows still is one of the least expensive components of a personal computer.

"This is the fundamental flaw in the government's case," Neukom said.

"They apparently never took the time or brought in objective analysis to the question of whether there's any consumer harm to our actions."



MICROSOFT lawyers point with glee to a courtroom admission from the government's chief economic witness, Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor Franklin A. Fisher.

Asked whether there was any present-day harm to consumers as a result of Microsoft's business practices, Fisher said: "On balance, I'd think that the answer is no, up to this point."

Later on, though, Fisher sought to recast his answer by stating that consumers have been deprived of choices through restrictive contracts by which Microsoft forces PC makers and World Wide Web site operators not to promote Netscape's products.

People familiar with the government case say the government may argue in formal "Conclusions of Law" that will be submitted to the judge this spring that some of Microsoft's actions are per se violations of antitrust law that do not require a showing of consumer harm.

Among those acts, the government will argue, are Microsoft's alleged attempts to force Netscape out of the browser market.

As both sides head into a six-week recess to prepare rebuttal arguments, they are likely to devote particular attention to the harm issue.

To bolster its consumer harm arguments, the government is considering summoning Ted Waitt, the chief executive of personal computer maker Gateway 2000 Inc., according to sources familiar with the government's case.

Waitt, who rejected government overtures to appear as a witness earlier in the trial, would be asked to testify about how Microsoft's contractual restrictions affect the products Gateway sells to consumers, the sources said.

"Both sides will continue to hammer away at harm," Kovacic said, "because they know that at the end of the day, there is no more important issue than this one."

(The Washington Post)

Castro rolls out welcome mat to counter US embargo

The dozens of foreign dignitaries who visited Cuba last year were hardly accidental tourists. Havana is making a full-court press in the diplomatic arena, **Serge F. Kovaleski** reports

A billboard in Cuba's delapidated capital of Havana heralded the arrival earlier this month of Belize's prime minister, whose portrait was sketched on the poster next to warm words of welcome in Spanish and English.

In preceding weeks, the same billboard had extended similar greetings to the leaders of St. Lucia, Colombia and Suriname. Meanwhile, the island has been all but overrun by foreign ministers from countries such as Peru, Belgium and Canada.

In the year since Pope John Paul II's historic visit to Cuba, the government of President Fidel Castro has launched what it terms "the offensive": a diplomatic full-court press aimed at forging political and economic ties with nations worldwide, as a way to combat the long-standing US trade embargo.

Closer ties could help ease Cuba's grinding economic crisis resulting largely from US sanctions and the disappearance of large subsidies after the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union.

But the initiative also carries symbolic importance for Castro, who is trying to present Cuba as a more open state and one that has been able to circumvent US efforts to isolate this island of 11 million people.

Capitalizing on the pontiff's call for improved relations between Cuba and the rest of the world, Castro has invited a multitude of foreign dignitaries to visit the Western Hemisphere's last bastion of communism. They have responded in kind, forging agreements on issues from trade to scientific research and cultural exchanges that could lead to more substantive cooperation.

In 1998, according to the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations, 36 heads of state and 92 ministers visited Cuba, which now maintains diplomatic relations with 167 countries.

Meanwhile, Castro has dispatched Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina on trips from Russia to Asia. Earlier this month, Carlos Lage, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, flew to Spain, where it was announced that King Juan Carlos I would visit Cuba this spring.

CASTRO also has done his share of traveling. Last year, he visited 15 countries, including Jamaica, Barbados, Grenada and the Dominican Republic, to build opposition to the embargo and promote unity in the Caribbean, where Cuba is emerging as a dominant economic force mainly because of its thriving tourism industry. The regional Caribbean Export Development Agency is set to open a Havana office within two months.



One of the symbols of Cuba's new openness was the visit last month of a shipload of US university students, seen here examining cigars. The more than 600 students were believed to be the largest college group to visit the island in four decades. (AP)

Cuba also sent hundreds of physicians and other health professionals to areas of the Caribbean and Central America ravaged by Hurricane Mitch last year, and more recently to Armenia, Colombia, which was badly damaged by a January earthquake.

Colombian President Andres Pastrana has sought Castro's help in trying to negotiate a peace settlement with Colombia's leftist rebel groups.

"Cuba has had some great diplomatic victories over the last year," acknowledged a high-ranking US State Department official.

Spurred by the Soviet collapse, Cuba had begun to expand its links to the outside world even before the pope's visit. But the pontiff's words – "May Cuba, with all its magnificent potential, open itself up to the world, and may the world open itself up to Cuba" – have clearly speeded the process.

In building ties with Cuba, many countries have openly showed contempt for the embargo and efforts by Washington to pressure them into isolating the island. But commercial considerations also play an important role in their courtship of Castro's government.

A November visit by a British trade official, for example, paved the way for British Airways service between London and Havana, which it expects to inaugurate next month. In December, South Africa's deputy health minister came to Cuba to explore the prospects for pharmaceutical sales. And several commercial accords were signed last month after a visit by Peruvian government and business leaders.

But the mystique of both Cuba and its 73-year-old leader also have attracted emissaries who now are more willing to defy an embargo that the pope condemned during his visit.

"What this all shows is that we are not the isolated ones," said a top-ranking official in Cuba's Central Committee. "We are part of the world ... and many people around the world are fascinated with the social project we have been working on for a long time."

John Kavulich, president of the US-Cuba Trade and Economic Council, said, "All of this international activity is of tremendous public relations value because it shows that an increasing number of countries are accepting what Cuba is and not what it should be or will be."

He added, however, that "once it gets past the diplomatic-relations stage, the real challenge of accountability comes. More nations may start becoming vocal about the way Cuba is governed."

CUBA recently was criticized when Isabel Allende, a Cuban deputy foreign minister, visited Norway the day after Cuban lawmakers approved tough laws to neutralize US-linked opposition to the Castro government.

At a news conference with Allende following private discussions about political prisoners and dissidents in Cuba, Norway's deputy foreign minister, Janne Haaland Matlary, said, "Cuba's new penal laws are too strict in comparison to the crime."

Allende later retorted, "We need strict punishment for those who collaborate with the United States. ...This is a matter of our independence."

The laws, which included measures designed to stem an alarming rise in crime, were passed following US President Bill Clinton's decision last month to ease the embargo, a move that Castro views as a ploy to undermine his government.

While acknowledging their discomfort with Castro's approach to human rights, representatives of governments that seek better Cuban relations insist their approach is more likely to produce democratic change than the US policy of isolation.

"We think constructive engagement with more countries will help move Cuba toward greater reforms on such issues as human rights, good governance and a more open economy," said Christian Girouard, a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Canada, which is the biggest investor in Cuba.

(The Washington Post)

After Monica: No fascinating headlines

By DAVID DALEY

Farewell, Monica, for now. Welcome back JonBenet. And good to meet you, Juanita. It's as if impeachment never happened on TV talk-show "Geraldo," where the murder of JonBenet Ramsey is topic No. 1 again.

And the Washington shows are abuzz about Juanita Broaddrick.

Still, neither story seems to be driving water-cooler conversation among those who don't read the *Drudge Report*, an Internet magazine.

"I don't think there has been a big compelling story, possibly the bombing of Kosovo," says John Moody, Fox News Channel's vice president of news and editorial.

But while that might make headlines in the former Yugoslavia, it's not something that fascinates Americans, perhaps because the Clinton administration's policy shifts so often, Moody suggests.

With impeachment drifting from the cable screen, here are some of the stories getting more attention.

JonBenet Ramsey: On CNBC, Geraldo Rivera seemingly has a new co-host, Lawrence Schiller, whose revealing – and well-timed – book *Perfect Murder, Perfect Town: JonBenet and the City of Boulder*, has been the talk of "Geraldo" ever since Chief Justice William Rehnquist adjourned the impeachment trial.

Jane Doe No. 5: On his MSNBC show Tuesday night, John Hockenberry asked perhaps the most repugnant question imaginable, asking guest E.J. Dionne, "Do you think the president is a rapist?" Dionne seemed in a state of shocked disbelief that he's gone from writing serious books like *Why Americans Hate Politics* to being asked gutter-level questions based on decade-old unverified accusations.

BUT Juanita Broaddrick's account of an alleged assault by Clinton, published first by the *Wall Street Journal*, then the *Washington Post* and denied by the White House, has been a long-rumored, much-talked-about story in Clinton-conspiracy channels for years.

"Dateline NBC" ran its long-delayed interview with Broaddrick last week. The story resurfaced again during the impeachment trial, as investigators looked to prove a pattern of harassment, and exploded into the commentariat when Broaddrick finally went public with her story.

Judy Jarvis, whose nationally syndicated radio show is based in Connecticut, suggests the public has tuned out Clinton scandal stories. "We did an hour on Juanita Broaddrick, and people didn't even know about it," she said.

Hillary for Senate: Not since Gen. Colin Powell considered running for president in 1996 has there been so much talk about a candidate who hasn't come close to declaring her intentions. The Clinton-for-Senate boomlet has been a media dream, filling the post-Monica punditry vacuum, not to mention the current covers of both *Time* and *Newsweek*.

It's a surreal scene – an entire election between Hillary and New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani has already been imagined, hypothesized, polled and analyzed to death before either candidate announces. Giuliani might not even be the nominee. Former Sen. Alfonse D'Amato is sniffing around the seat as well, which could set up a race between Hillary and the chairman of the Senate Whitewater investigation. Punditry: so cheap, so meaningless and so fun.

Campaign 2000: Gary Bauer's in. So is Sen. Bob Smith, R-N.H. Pat Buchanan is leaving CNN to "consider" his third bid for the White House. If that's not enough, here comes Lamar! What, you're still not excited? Neither is Jarvis. "Most people's lives do not revolve around the kind of political stories they talk about in Washington," says Jarvis.

But that won't keep cable's talking-head shows from the nascent debate. "I think the 2000 presidential election is the next story to fight on," says MSNBC contributor Norah O'Donnell. "It's not as sexy. But it won't be all Monica all the time; it will be all presidential politics, all the time."

But that hasn't happened yet, says Fox News's Moody. "I think there will be an upsurge of interest in the presidential cycle when it starts up. It's not yet on the public's radar."

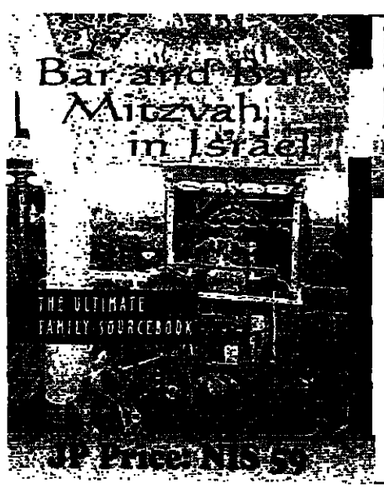
MORE Monica. Like it or not, the Lewinsky story hardly finished with the impeachment vote. Next week, Monica sheds a tear with Barbara Walters, and the 25-year-old's 288-page autobiography, *Monica's World*, written with Princess Diana biographer Andrew Morton, hits bookstores.

That will be followed by an O.J.-style rash of Clinton scandal books from *Newsweek's* Michael Isikoff, *Vanity Fair's* Christopher Hitchens and the *New Yorker's* Jeffrey Toobin, not to mention Hillary Clinton biographies from Gail Sheehy and Carl Bernstein.

What about real issues? Jarvis says the end of impeachment doesn't bother her at all, as she has been focused on political issues that affect real people. Some of her favorite recent subjects have been lawsuits attempting to hold gun and tobacco manufacturers responsible for actions by those who use their products, "zero tolerance" policies in schools that consider a butter knife accidentally packed with lunch as serious a weapon as a gun, and criticism of a Times Square ad for Calvin Klein.

Jarvis considers all three ridiculous. "There's no lack of topics," she says.

"It's easy to do Bill Clinton, unless you're willing to find the wonderful subjects we find every day." (The Hartford Courant)



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8 tourists hacked to death in Uganda

By PAUL BUSHARIZI

KAMPALA (Reuters) – Rwandan Hutu rebels clubbed and hacked to death eight foreign tourists who had gone to Uganda to track rare mountain gorillas, an American survivor said yesterday.

"The ones I saw had their heads crushed in and deep slashes with machetes," Mark Ross told reporters in the capital Kampala.

He said the dead were four Britons, two Americans and two New Zealanders – four men and four women. One of the women had been raped before being killed.

Diplomats said the bodies had been recovered.

Ross said he and five other foreigners had been freed by their captors and told to take a message warning the international community not to deal with Rwanda's government.

The rebels, who have bases in the Congo, are remnants of the notorious "Interahamwe" militia responsible for Rwanda's 1994 genocide, in which 800,000 people, mainly ethnic Tutsis, were murdered in just 100 days.

Their favoured method of slaughter, in which neither babies, pregnant women, children nor the elderly were spared, was to slash them to death with machetes or bludgeon them to death.

After the present Rwandan government took power to end the genocide, many of the Interahamwe militiamen fled to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Britain's High Commissioner to Uganda, Michael Cook, said Ugandan forces had chased the rebels and they exchanged gunfire.

"There was a clash between Ugandan forces and rebel forces," he said. Britain is particularly sensitive to kidnappings of its citizens after three Britons were killed in Yemen in December when troops stormed a group holding 16 Western tourists.

Ross, however, said there had been no clash between their abductors and the Ugandan Army before the murders or the other captives' release.

Thirty-one tourists were initially abducted at three camp sites in the Bwindi National Park in southwestern Uganda at dawn on Monday. Four Ugandans, a game warden and three rangers who tried to protect them were killed in a gun battle with rebels.

Seventeen of the hostages escaped or were freed soon after, but the rebels then led their 14 remaining captives into the densely-forested hills and Ugandan troops launched a manhunt.

Ugandan officials said France's deputy ambassador to Uganda, Anne Peltier, who was among the captives in this week's crisis, was freed with a message for the authorities.

It said the action was being taken because of US and British government support for Rwanda's Tutsi population.

Linda Adams, a Californian woman released by the rebels after she faked an asthma attack, said the rebels had singled out Americans and Britons to take as their hostages but treated them all well in the first few hours of the ordeal.

"They were treating us as well as could be expected," she told Reuters after being flown to Kenya yesterday.

She said heavy gunfire heralded the rebels' assault.

"I heard the gunshots and some noises. I got out of my tent and I walked around the corner to the front and I got caught.

"After a while they brought some of the other captives... from the other camps, marched them up and asked them what nationality they were. If they were British or American, they were sent to my group and a little further along, we all got up and marched out and started up the mountain." The Bwindi National Park – also known as the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest – is one of the last strongholds of the rare mountain gorilla and an area known for insecurity.

The existence of the endangered gorillas was made widely known by the film *Gorillas in the Mist*, about Dian Fossey who lived with and studied the gorillas.

Last August, six tourists who crossed from Uganda into Congo to track the gorillas were attacked and kidnapped by Rwandan Hutu rebels. Three are still missing but Ugandan authorities said last month they believed they were still alive.

Albright still hopes for China trade deal

BEIJING (AP) – US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright left China yesterday hoping to strike a trade deal with Beijing this spring, even after admonishing Chinese officials to halt a crackdown on political dissent.

"In our relationship with China, these are neither the best of times nor the worst of times," she said, summing up her three-day visit.

In her talks with Chinese President Jiang Zemin, Premier Zhu Rongji, and other Chinese officials, Albright said she made it clear that the Clinton administration "deplores" a fresh crackdown on dissent in China.

Albright didn't win any concessions on human rights, however. Instead, the Chinese said it was an internal affair and they complained about a US State Department report that condemns the crackdown.



New Nigerian president

Retired Nigerian general Olusegun Obasanjo raises his hands during his first speech after being declared winner of last week's presidential elections. Obasanjo promised to fight corruption and restore prosperity to the country. (Reuters)

Gaddafi: Lockerbie deal near

By ABDELAZIZ BARROUHI

TUNIS (Reuters) – Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi said yesterday that a deal to put on trial the two suspects in the Lockerbie airliner bombing was near, adding that he had no doubt about the fairness of a Scottish court.

"A final agreement is expected," Gaddafi said in a speech in the coastal city of Benghazi broadcast live by Libyan television monitored in Tunis.

"I ask the Libyan people to trust South African President Nelson Mandela and Saudi Arabia, who asked us to accept (the deal)," he added.

"It is not possible to doubt the fairness of a Scottish court, because it would not be exposed to pressures from intelligence services nor to a British government order over whatever ruling. It would not include jurors and would sit in the Netherlands not in Britain," he added.

Abdel Basset Ali Mohamed al-Megrahi and Lamen Khalifa Fhimah are suspected of the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, that killed 270 people.

Yugoslavs shell Kosovo's southern border

By MISHA SAVIC

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia (AP) – Yugoslav forces pounded an area along Kosovo's border with Macedonia with tank and mortar fire yesterday, pressing an offensive that has driven thousands of ethnic Albanian civilians from their homes.

The fighting is part of an operation that began a few days ago along a strategic route that NATO troops would likely use if they entered Yugoslavia, either as part of a peacekeeping force or to rescue unarmed international monitors.

And in a political development that could boost international efforts to persuade ethnic Albanians to accept a plan for self-rule, Adem Demaci resigned as political adviser to the Kosovo Liberation Army.

The influential hard-liner, who has been outspoken in his opposition to the US-backed plan because it falls short of independence, said the KLA leadership "thinks they know more about politics than I do."

Demaci's departure may signal that guerrilla leaders, who have promised to sign the deal when peace talks resume March 15 in France, will not abandon that pledge despite pressure from its critics.

Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Vollebaek, chairman of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, said he believes the Albanian side will sign. Vollebaek told Norwegian state radio that Demaci's departure could make it easier to bring together a number of the Kosovo Albanian groups.

Elsewhere, the Serbian Media Center reported fighting about 45 kilometers west of Pristino to prevent NATO forces from coming in, or keep diplomatic monitors and refugees from getting out.

Hundreds of ethnic Albanians are camped in the open near the border as the result of fighting that intensified after rebels ambushed a convoy Sunday, killing the Kacanik police commander.

About 7,000 people attended the officer's funeral yesterday.

The UN refugee agency said some 3,000 displaced people are already packed into the town of Jankovic, living with local families, with hundreds of others camped on a snow-covered hillside in plastic tents.

More than 2,000 people have been killed and over 300,000 displaced – mostly ethnic Albanians – in a year of fighting in Kosovo since Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic launched an offensive to crush separatist rebels.

With the violence worsening, international officials were talking to both sides to try to keep the draft peace plan alive. A NATO peacekeeping force is a central part of the deal.

WORLD
in brief

Iraq says oil-line metering unit destroyed

AIN ZALA, Iraq (Reuters) – A communications center used to monitor crude oil flows on an export pipeline in northern Iraq was completely destroyed during US bombing raids on Monday, an Iraqi oil official said yesterday.

The director of operations of the Iraqi Northern Oil Company, Hossein al-Fattal, said that the station had been "100%" destroyed.

He said one company employee was killed and seven more were wounded.

Iraqi oil flows to Turkey's Mediterranean coast stopped on Sunday after a US missile knocked out pumping station communications near Mosul.

"There is no way that we can resume oil now," said al-Fattal.

Tortured bodies found in Indonesia's Ambon

AMBON (Reuters) – Two stabbed and tortured bodies were found yesterday in Indonesia's scarred island of Ambon, which remained tense after two days of bloody religious clashes, police said.

The bodies of a man and a woman, both Christians, were found on in Air Kuning, some 10 km. west of Ambon city.

It brings the number of dead in violence in the area to 12 since Sunday. Clashes between Moslems and Christians have hit the eastern island for weeks.

There were unconfirmed reports that a third body, a man, had also been found nearby.

Malaysia's Anwar provoked me, policeman says

KUALA LUMPUR (Reuters) – Malaysia's ex-police chief said yesterday he was provoked into slapping ousted finance minister Anwar Ibrahim, and denied Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad had instructed him to beat the former minister.

In his first public admission that he hit Anwar after the sacked minister was arrested in September, former inspector-general of police Abdul Rahim Noor said he lost control and slapped Anwar after being called a "father of dogs."

"Let me make it clear, my act as referred to was not prompted, abetted, instructed, advised, directed, assisted by anyone else, not even my police officers who helped me, not even the prime minister," the ex-police chief said.

Rahim Noor offered the testimony to a royal commission investigating injuries Anwar suffered after being arrested in September.

UK National Gallery checking for looted art

LONDON – Britain's prestigious National Gallery yesterday became the first public collection in the world to announce that it is investigating the origin of paintings it has acquired since the 1930s to determine whether any had been looted by the Nazis.

The British government has now ordered all public galleries and museums to investigate the provenance of works in their collections to ensure they had not been looted by the Nazis.

Gallery director Neil MacGregor said there are question marks over the origin of 120 paintings.

The gallery admitted that at least 10 of them – including works by Delacroix, Courbet, Pissarro, and a Monet acquired just two years ago – are giving rise to particular concern. *Douglas Davis*

Dutch coalition parties clash over Nazi jibe

AMSTERDAM (Reuters) – The Netherlands' ruling coalition was split yesterday as sparks flew over a Labor jibe against Liberal asylum policies which rekindled memories of Nazi deportations of Jews.

The row has been smoldering since last week, when senior Labor politician Ad Melkert criticized Liberal proposals to return home 23,000 refugees from the Bosnian war within four months. Melkert accused the Liberals of wanting to "load foreigners into wagons" – a phrase heavy with World War II associations.

The allusion went too far for former Liberal leader Frits Bolkestein, who lashed out against Melkert. "He is associating my party with Nazis and that is an outrage," Bolkestein said Monday.

Police: Girl buried dead baby in backyard

SELMER, Tennessee (AP) – Police found an infant's body buried in a backyard after workers at a Wal-Mart developed film showing what appeared to be a baby lying in an open grave.

Police went to the address listed on the film order and found a 14-year-old girl who admitted taking the pictures and burying the child, which she said was stillborn, Selmer police chief Neal Burks said Monday.

If she had not taken pictures, "we would probably have never known about the incident," Burks said.

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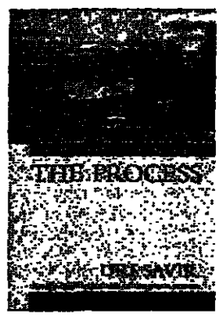


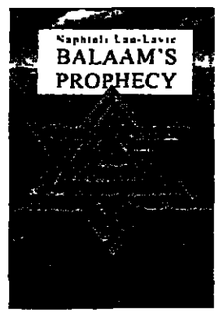
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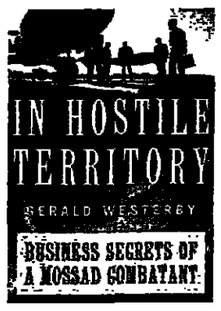
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Pension planning

By the year 2005, Finance Ministry officials predict, the budget will be financing two armies at roughly equal cost: the serving army, and a second, retired, one. The financial time-bomb presented by generous military retirement plans is only part of the tremendous burden created by "budgeted" government pensions.

The agreement, due to be signed today, between the Histadrut and the Finance Ministry creating a new pension system is a long-awaited first step on the road to financial solvency.

The agreement, though it has taken four years of negotiations to finalize, is really simple: From now on, all new government workers will join an "cumulative" pension system, to which they contribute, rather than the existing "budgetary" arrangement, which did not require employee contributions.

Under the old system, which will continue to apply to current government workers, pensions were simply budgeted as a percentage of salary and according to seniority. As the work force grew and aged, the pension burden carried by the government grew as well, and now stands at about NIS 180 billion. Everyone knew that the system had to be changed, or it would go bankrupt.

According to the new agreement, pensions will be funded as they have been in the private sector for some time: Employees will contribute 5.5 percent of their salaries, while the government contributes an amount equal to 12% of their salaries to a pension fund.

To induce the Histadrut to give up the old system, the government made certain concessions, such as counting overtime in the pension calculations. In addition, the Treasury agreed to implement the costly agreement between the Histadrut and former finance minister Avraham Shohat of March 1996, whereby pensions that had been calculated on the basis of an average career wage will be recalculated on the basis of a formula more advantageous to the workers.

Despite these expensive concessions, the Finance Ministry will breathe much easier when the agreement is finally signed. Yesterday, the ministry issued a statement blasting the local authorities, who had threatened to withhold their signature until their operating deficits are covered.

Once the deal with the Histadrut is done, the Finance Ministry hopes to complete negotiations with the military, which will constitute the largest government sector still outside the new system.

In addition to putting pensions on a solid footing, it was hoped that the new pension framework would give a shot in the arm to private pension funds and to the Israeli stock market. The agreement, however, will only have a limited affect on the latter score, since only 30% of the pension funds may be invested in the capital market, while most of it will remain in fixed-income government bonds. In the private sector, the popular "manager's insurance" pension plans invest all their funds on the free market.

It is unfortunate that an opportunity was missed to increase competition in the capital markets, rather than continuing to prop up the Histadrut pension funds and funnel money back to the government through bonds. In addition to the clear imperative to expand the new system to military pensions, the next objective should be to further privatize the pension funds themselves.

It is also not clear that the agreement reached will be sufficient to actually make the system solvent, due to the 1996 Histadrut-Shohat agreement.

From an actuarial perspective, ensuring that in the future the system pays for itself does take away some of the danger of a collapse. But, as often happens, this issue may have to be revisited and a way may have to be found to finance the thousands of pensions locked in the old system.

If such a negotiation needs to occur, it would be useful to confront it before the prospect of bankrupting the government looms again. The agreement about to be reached is a positive example of planning ahead, but the irresponsible policies of the past still need correcting.

Treasury wage director Yossi Kucik stated that "the [pension] agreement's implications will be felt by the coming generations." In the meantime, it is imperative to act before the financial situation of this generation is imperiled, as politically difficult as that may be.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INCOMPREHENSIBLE DECISION

Sir, – No matter how many times I read the media accounts, I am still unable to comprehend the logic of the Supreme Court's decision to deny the extradition of Samuel Sheinbein. It is, simply put, an outrage.

Sheinbein is charged with a heinous crime that was not self-defense. It was cold-blooded, calculated murder. He is a man accused of cutting up and burning a body for one purpose and one purpose only – to get away with it.

The crime was committed on US soil. Sheinbein has lived his entire life in the United States. The only time he ever went to Israel was to escape the gauntlet of the US justice system.

Yet, given those facts, Israel's senior justices are still able to conclude that they have the right to prosecute him. Someone needs to try to explain the logic of that decision. Then again, don't bother. There is no reasonable way to explain it.

Sheinbein, if convicted, should be executed as the parents of his victim watch. He is worth nothing more.

I believe that I am expressing the opinions of most US citizens when I say shame on Israel. The decision is an insult. I will be contacting my elected representatives to encourage them to stop providing aid to your country.

I am also vowing to do everything in my power to remind others of Israel's arrogance in this case. We will remember.

GLENN PUIT
Las Vegas, Nevada.

HOSPITABLE TURKS

Sir, – Thomas O'Dwyer seems to enjoy Turkey-bashing from time to time. Let me bring to Mr. O'Dwyer's attention the following facts:

In 1492, when Ferdinand and Isabella expelled the Jewish community from Spain, no country in Europe was willing to welcome the Jews, except the Ottoman Sultan Beyhzit II. This policy of the Ottoman Turks towards the Jewish people continued through the following centuries. Jews lived and flourished in the Ottoman Empire peacefully, some of them becoming important advisors to the sultan.

I lived in Istanbul between 1931 and 1948. Never, but never, during nearly 17 years of living in Turkey, did I hear of any antisemitic remarks or acts. Not in school, not on the streets, not amongst friends, not by any government officials. Never.

On the contrary: during the dark years of the Second World War, a few thousand Jews who were able to escape from Hitler's inferno, found refuge and safety in Turkey. They – and my family – owe their lives to the hospitable Turkish people.

Mr. O'Dwyer, please stop watching *Midnight Express* on your video. I am ready to take you to Turkey and introduce you to a kind, generous and above all, hospitable people, the Turks.

LASZLO GRUEN
Tel Aviv.

MOVIE CRITIC BERATED

Sir, - As a daily reader of your paper, I find it unacceptable that your movie reviewer would give a 5-star rating to a movie like *Happiness*. The movie was revolting throughout, and left some viewers physically sick with disgust from the swinish behavior of the characters depicted.

It is surely against the interest of the general public to be misled by Ms. Hoffman's personal view, which along with her sophisticated writing style, is not in line with the feelings of the general public.

KATE FIRESTONE SHIFTAN
Jerusalem.

WELCOME RECOGNITION

Sir, - Arutz 7 radio has finally received the legitimization and recognition which it strongly deserved. The views and opinion of Arutz 7 are held by many people who deeply love the people and land of Israel. It broadcasts music representative of its listeners' love of the Land, People and Torah of Israel. Its broadcasters lovingly refer to "klal Yisrael" (an all-encompassing description of the Jewish people) and do not only refer to those sharing their own political persuasions.

Those highly critical of Arutz 7's mere existence should perhaps stop demonizing and marginalizing them, and rather take the time to listen to their messages. You don't always have to agree with everything the other guy says in order to respect and perhaps even feel affection for him. In this case, the "demon" feels an affection towards his critics and foes. That, in a nutshell, is Arutz 7.

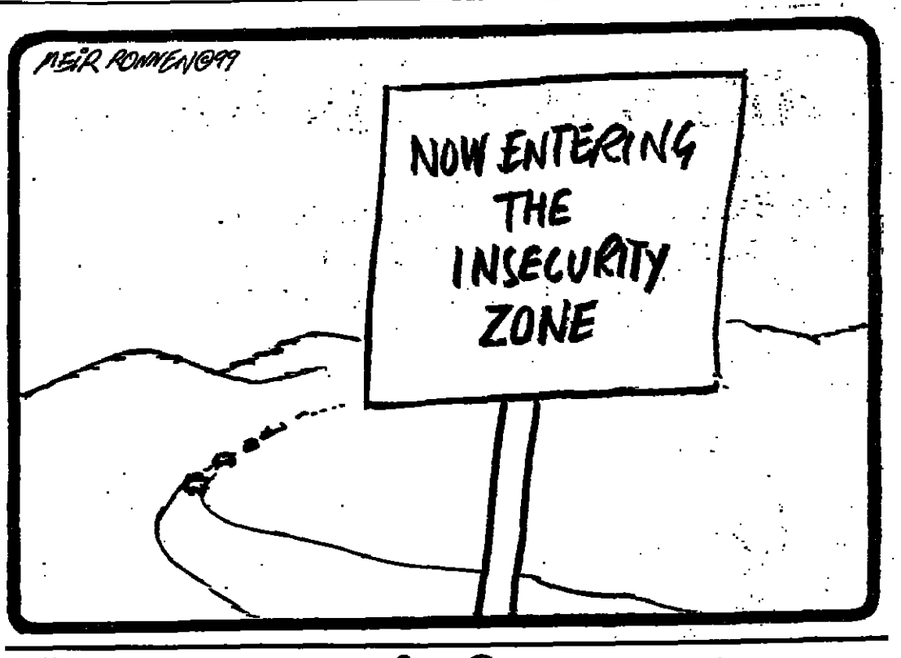
BARBARA SOLOMON-BROWN
Beit Shemesh.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On March 3, 1949, *The Palestine Post* reported from London that British officials watched with growing anxiety the reports that Israeli troops were approaching the Red Sea, threatening their land communications between British forces in the Suez Canal zone and those in Transjordan. The officials feared that Israel would create a fait accompli precisely at a time when the Israel-Transjordan armistice talks began at Rhodes.

25 years ago: On March 3, 1974, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the International Red Cross was finally allowed to visit Israeli POWs in Syria. Israel and Syria had agreed to send delegates to Washington to negotiate military disengagement under the auspices of US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Alexander Zvielli



Democracy's for everyone

DAVID NEWMAN

What do the haredi rabbis and Amnon Rubinstein have in common?

Judging by their comments last week, they all would prefer American-style freedom and equality over that which prevails in Israel.

Demonstrating against the court decision to imprison a haredi man who had vandalized the home of three Christian women in Jerusalem's Mea She'arim neighborhood, haredi rabbis bemoaned what they saw as the absence of freedom of expression which would allow them to publicly oppose all Christian activity in Israel.

In America, they argued, they would not be arrested for such activity.

On the same day, in an opinion piece that appeared in a Hebrew daily, Meretz MK and former education minister Amnon Rubinstein bemoaned the discrimination practiced by the haredi and Orthodox representatives in the government against the Conservative and Reform movements.

This denial of the freedom of expression to organize and worship in whichever way they see fit is, in Rubinstein's view, a basic denial of human rights. Israel should, he argued, follow the American example, in which all religions and all religious groups are free to practice their own brand of religion, as long as it does not interfere with the rights of others.

But the haredi leaders, as well as Rubinstein and his colleagues in Meretz, are forgetting an important difference between the two countries.

The right to freedom of expression is one which enables each and every person or group to express opinions on any issue, as long as these views are not forcefully imposed upon other groups in society who think differently.

The same applies to freedom of religion. Both religious and secular Israelis should have every right to "do their own thing."

But, if they want the freedoms which exist in the US, they should not be allowed to impose a religious or secularist way of life over those groups who think otherwise, nor – as in the case of the Mea She'arim pogrom – to commit violence in an attempt to forcefully impose these beliefs.

For as long as either the secular or religious believe that they, and they alone, have the right to determine how the rest of society should live their daily lives, they do not have the right to cry foul in the name of freedom of expression.

It's a bit hypocritical to demand US-style equality when you don't accept the validity of another's views or lifestyle

Many religious Israelis see their ultimate goal as transforming the country into a theocracy in which daily behavior is governed by religious law. Equally, many secular Israelis see the ultimate objective of Zionism as creating a new Hebrew nation, in which traditional modes of religious behavior no longer have any role in the public sphere.

If neither is prepared to accept the right of the other to equal status, and to uphold the rights of members of other side to express their views and maintain their religious or secular lifestyles as they each see fit, then it is a bit hypocritical to demand the type of equal rights that exists in other western democracies.

THE first step towards achieving such a status must be the depolitization of religion. There is nothing that undermines the rights of others more than the attempt to institutionalize religion via the political system, by passing religious legislation, for example.

Equally, there has to be an understanding by the secular majority in Israel that true democracy means that the growing religious population is entitled to the same rights that they wish for themselves.

They must also be prepared to recognize the intensity of this sector's religious beliefs. That the secular often mock these beliefs as being "medieval" and out of place in a modern democracy is itself a denial of the observant community's rights. The secular would be the first to protest – and rightly so – if similar slurs were made about any other ethnic or religious minority.

It is not for either group to pass judgement on the rights of the other to believe what they want, but simply to let them go about their lives in accordance with these same beliefs. This is something which neither the haredi leaders nor Amnon Rubinstein are prepared to do.

As such, they cannot demand that society be governed by a form of political culture, such as that in the US, whose Constitution was established first and foremost on the principle that everyone is entitled to live according to his own beliefs, but cannot impose those beliefs on other segments of society.

Only when all accept this basic premise can the opposing ideological camps in Israel move towards what must be one of the few goals that unite them: a true system of equality, under which neither feels threatened by the lifestyle of the other.

Surveys can be polls apart

AARON LERNER

I would be the first to admit that I am a poll freak. Every Friday, the first thing I do when I pick up *Ma'ariv* and *Yediot Aharonot* is flip through the pages of the commentary section for my weekly fix of pre-election poll results. In fact, I am so fascinated by polls that, as director of Independent Media Review and Analysis (IMRA), I commission Gallup Israel to run surveys for me from time to time.

But while I am a public-opinion-poll devotee, I am well aware of their potential pitfalls. There are serious problems in the way that polls are designed, presented and used.

First there's the problem of ambiguous questions.

Last Friday, *Ma'ariv* published a Gallup poll that found that 50.3% of Israeli Jews support withdrawing from the Golan as part of a peace treaty with Syria that would also resolve the Lebanon problem, while 39.0% opposed. The poll was carried out the same day that three soldiers were killed in Lebanon and that no doubt influenced the results.

But even taking this into account, did the respondents realize that they were being asked about full withdrawal? Do they recall that the late Yitzhak Rabin made a point of differentiating between withdrawing "in" the Golan and "from" the Golan? So much so that he once claimed that if he held onto even one percent of the Golan he would not be withdrawing "from" the Golan.

I wondered about those poll results and decided to test my doubts. So IMRA commissioned a Gallup poll this past Sunday asking virtually the same question, except that instead of using the fuzzy term "withdrawal from the Golan" we explicitly asked if Israelis would support "withdrawal from all of the Golan" as part of a peace agreement with Syria that included resolving the Lebanon problem.

It turned out that this change significantly affected the results. The pollsters called people after news was already out about the four Israelis killed in Lebanon that morning so, if anything, this should have pushed support for a deal with Syria even higher.

Polling is hardly an exact science

But that's not what Gallup found. While 50.3% of Israeli Jews supported withdrawal "from the Golan" a week ago, on Sunday 42.4% supported withdrawal "from all of the Golan." The change in opposition to withdrawal was even greater, going from 39% to 49.1%.

Poll results are also presented with considerably more weight than they deserve, or even worse, when there is no reason to expect them to provide meaningful results. The polls preceding the Likud central committee vote and the Labor primary were doomed to failure because the ranking in the lists was determined by so few votes that the difference between earning a top spot and landing in a lower tier was well within the range of statistical uncertainty.

A BIGGER problem is that some of the most frequently asked questions are fraught with uncertainty. And the most uncertain question concerns the possible runoff election for prime minister.

In the May elections, there will be two ballots: for the Knesset and for prime minister. So if there is a runoff on June 1, people will vote knowing the exact composition of the Knesset.

The outcome of the Knesset elections will no doubt have a major impact on the voting of significant portions of the population in the runoff, both in terms of their choice of prime minister and their propensity to even take the trouble to vote a second time.

The combinations and permutations of possible outcomes and their likelihood of taking place are mind-numbing for political analysts – let alone for the 500 or so unfortunate souls called by a pollster one evening.

Moreover, the use of polls by politicians, particularly in this campaign, has been a great disappointment.

Don't get me wrong – there is nothing wrong with a politician wanting to know what interests or concerns the public. The problems start when politicians try to mold themselves to maximize the number of people who think that they agree with them.

Consider withdrawal from all of the Golan. Our Gallup poll found that Prime Minister Netanyahu has managed to be so vague about his position that almost a fifth of those who said they plan to vote for him in the second round, support complete withdrawal from the Golan and also think that Netanyahu agrees with them.

This, at the same time that our follow-up question found that around 70% of Netanyahu supporters oppose completely leaving the Golan and think that Netanyahu agrees with them!

I suspect that the fuzziness in Netanyahu's position may very well be the driving force behind the support that some of his followers express regarding withdrawal from the Golan.

Yes, there is a place for polls. And politicians can certainly use properly designed polls to identify what people think and why. Their challenge is to use that information to determine how most effectively to convince the public that their positions are deserving of support.

Is capitalism limp?

WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR.

People waiting eagerly for capitalism to fail are greatly buoyed by the new book by Edward Luttwak, *Turbo-Capitalism: Winners and Losers in the Global Economy*. His name cheers reluctant readers of economic and political analysis because he is a bright gentleman with keen insights.

Years ago he clarified matters by telling us that in Soviet Russia, everything was permitted, except such activity as was banned. In China, nothing was permitted, except such activity as earned an exemption.

Luttwak is now telling us that the current form of capitalism is called "turbo-capitalism," and that what has happened is that capitalism has forsaken the kind of orderly upward mobility that over recent centuries won for it the sullen approval of the ethical community. If under capitalism 100 million people all rise, as with the tide, then everyone on board any one of capitalism's boats can cheer the secular movement toward universal economic progress.

This is no longer happening, Luttwak says, because the grand propellants of modern capitalism don't leave the kind of wake left by the development of a car engine or the generation of electricity. Instead we have the computer. And (I am citing Luttwak), this does not do for the many what it does for the few. The result is the isolation of a larger and larger class that does not rise with the tide.

A current criticism of the GOP tax proposals that would give everyone a 10 percent reduction in taxes is criticized in the same spirit. Why these people need to remind us, week after week, month after month, decade after decade, that a 10% reduction would mean $300,000 more money for Bill Gates and zero money for the mother of two is hard to understand. That the rich are rich seems to me not in need of reiteration.

The point in a universal reduction of taxes is first to lower disproportionate burdens. If Mr.

Nope. It always finds ingenious ways to spread the wealth

Gates is paying 50% of his earnings to the government, the question isn't: Isn't that a nice, jolly figure for somebody that rich? The question is: Do we really believe that a just society should penalize a citizen by as much as 50% of what he earns?

Luttwak has a nice metaphor for it all. The rich are industrious (those of them who are) because they feel the Calvinist drive. The not-rich accept their relative penury because they understand the Calvinist drive of mortification and sacrifice.

The not-rich who look at the whole scene and just seethe are revolutionaries, faux revolutionaries, revolutionaries manqués or inchoate revolutionaries.

BUT capitalism has unexpected and ingenious ways of spreading the wealth. Luttwak's "deprived $25,000-per-year mother" is the beneficiary of computer technology from the moment she rises to the moment she returns to sleep, a sleep whose untroubled state may be owing to medical discoveries made possible by – computer technology.

About this there is general agreement: The value of an education, in economic terms, is greater than ever. Thirty years ago a college education meant a 40% increase in average earnings. Now that is 70%. Well, how does capitalism handle that problem? A higher percentage of people go to college today than in 1950.

The strain comes only when you bump into ineducability. If the special skills required to move around in the cyberworld aren't acquirable, then there is relative lack of progress.

What do we do about that? We struggle to find other means of increasing productivity. There is an engine that is working on this all the time, because engines are fired by the need to reduce cost and to increase production.

"They" – the true believers – are asking more and more often, What in the name of heaven does the Republican Party think distinguishes it from other political parties?

What does distinguish the party – or should – is a metaphysical regard for property and a general belief that discriminatory taxation is a violation of a basic civil right, even if the 16th Amendment kicked its way into being, athwart the most basic moral perception, that one does not treat John differently from James just because John earns more money.

Turbo-capitalism can fire away on its sooty engines, but the basic picture is not changed.

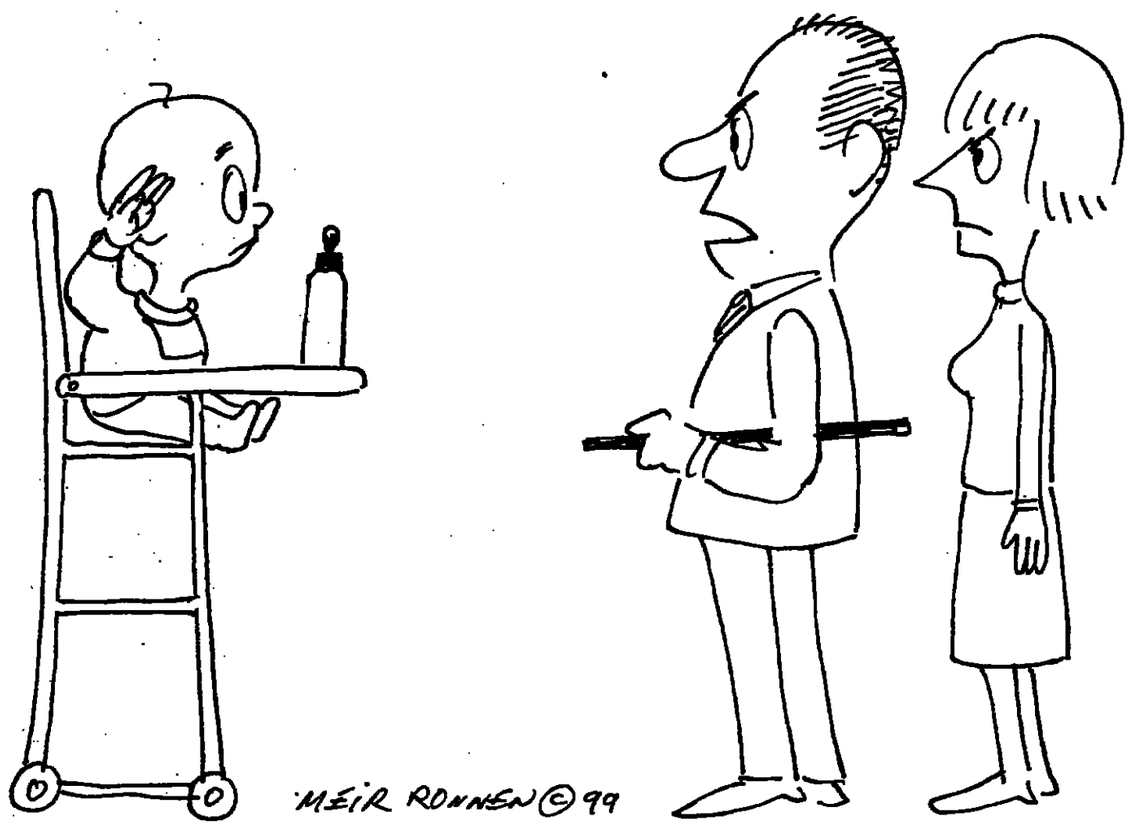
(Universal Press Syndicate)

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When 'God's way' is the only way

The Babywise approach, marketed as the 'morally centered' way to rear obedient children, has gained a following among US parents. But many pediatricians are alarmed, writes Hanna Rosin



Start early and teach your baby "highchair manners," parents are advised in a series of popular books on the Babywise approach to child rearing.

A child as young as eight months should sit with his hands on the side of his tray, or in his lap. To avoid whining and fussing, the baby should learn hand signals to express "please," "thank you" and "I love you."

If the child disobeys, parents are told, the best thing is a moderate squeeze or swat to the hand. If the baby is older than 18 months, it's time for "chastisement" with a flexible instrument, such as a rubber spatula.

Developed by a California couple named Gary and Anne Marie Ezzo, the Babywise books are designed to counter what the Ezzos see as a plague of "child-centered parenting."

But their goal is not only to raise babies who are less fussy; they want to ensure children who are more morally centered and faithful to God.

As the Ezzos see it, teaching children their principles of obedience is *Growing Kids God's Way*, as one of their books is titled. And their views have struck a responsive chord among parents who are worried about the effects of overindulging their children and convinced of long-term damage done to society by the child-rearing advice of Benjamin Spock.

Their most popular book, *On Becoming Babywise*, has sold more than 290,000 copies since it was published in 1995, and by one estimate a million parents have had some contact with the Ezzos' philosophy, through classes, tapes or the books.

BUT many pediatricians warn that the combination of strict rules packaged as gospel by the Ezzos can be dangerous. Promoting "highchair manners" and telling parents their children can sleep through the night in five weeks instead of the three- to six-month average pushes discipline to extremes, they say.

And when those methods are sold as "God's way," parents are afraid to bend the rules and follow their own instincts on feeding, for example, causing their babies to gain weight at dangerously slow rates.

Last fall, in response to a letter from 100 doctors and health care professionals calling some of the Ezzos' claims "untrue, misleading or unsubstantiated," the American Academy of Pediatrics passed a resolution to evaluate programs such as Babywise and its Christian counterparts.

The academy has since issued a media alert saying "scheduled feedings designed by parents may put babies at risk for poor weight gain and dehydration." Their final evaluation is expected later this year.

Many evangelical groups that share the Ezzos' belief in the need for greater discipline have also joined in the criticism.

Christian radio broadcaster James Dobson, who has written several books on child rearing, called the program "too rigid." When Gary Ezzo left Grace Community Church in Simi Valley, Calif., where he started the Babywise program, the board of elders issued a public statement accusing him of confusing "biblical standards and personal preference."

Gary and Anne Marie Ezzo declined to be interviewed. But a spokesman said that parents who carry their tenets to extremes are ignoring advice sprinkled throughout their books.

The books discourage parents from being "hyperscheduled clock watchers," said Robert Garcia, executive vice president of Growing Families International, the Ezzos' company, and tell them to stay flexible. The books include all the tools to avoid danger – growth charts and diaper counts. They remind parents that they lose the right to spank if they are not also loving.

The proof of their wisdom, Garcia says, is in the hundreds of thousands of happy families who have used their methods – methods the Ezzos developed while raising their own children.

Neighbors and friends always approached Gary Ezzo to say, "Wow, your kids are so well-behaved and polite," recalled Garcia. So in 1984, Ezzo began teaching an informal parenting class at church.

The aim in the beginning was not to start a business, and according to Garcia, the Ezzos have never bought radio ads or passed out pamphlets. "Our best advertisement is our own kids," said Garcia.

Child-centered parenting fosters 'a sinful disability called me-ism'
– Robert Garcia

The program spread by word of mouth, from church to church across the country. Initially it had an overtly Christian theme, backed by biblical verse.

But when pediatricians told them they did not feel comfortable recommending it to all families, Garcia said, they wrote *On Becoming Babywise*, which stresses the moral effects of their approach, but does not mention God.

FOR the Ezzos, choices a parent makes from the first day affect a child's character.

"Child-centered parenting," where a parent responds to an infant's every desire, including the one to be fed on demand, may be well-intentioned but fosters a "sinful disability called me-ism."

Stevie, an imaginary child in one book who is raised this way, is an insufferable brat and a bully. He pushes other kids off the swing, steals toys and is generally "ill-prepared for real life." He is, they claim, at higher risk for obesity and learning disability.

"The fact that a child has no moral understanding of why food shouldn't be intentionally dropped from a highchair doesn't mean that we should hold back instructions and restrictions," the Ezzos write.

"Parents should insist on moral behavior long before their child is capable of understanding moral concepts."

Signs that an eight-month-old is rebelling include: "arching her back defiantly" in a highchair, touching her food, playing with the remote control. "Failure to correct a child today will lead to moral tyranny tomorrow," the Ezzos write.

Critics say the Ezzos' warnings about moderation and flexibility are lost in the overall rigid focus on discipline, and they point to some of the messages posted on the Ezzos' Web site as examples of parents who follow their methods instead of common sense.

One parent complained that her two-year-old remained disobedient despite "the constant stream of welts on her bottom from the glue stick," and wondered what more she could do.

A father fretted that his 13-month-old "will go back and forth from isolation to the highchair for up to four hours and still refuse to sign 'all done' " – an Ezzo hand signal method – "even though she has done it before and knows exactly what we are asking of her."

Another complained that to her "astonishment," her six-month-old had begun arching his back and fussing when she put him in a highchair. "It's so sad to see that they're really sinners," she concluded.

"We're now on Day 5 of Timothy's retraining for naps," a Michigan mother wrote recently. "Yesterday was the most difficult day ever.

"I thought the screaming and crying for 45 minutes was difficult, but I could endure because I felt sure that this was the right thing to do. "However yesterday, when I saw a little blood, it was hard not to panic and question my methods."

AFTER writing an editorial criticizing Babywise in a magazine of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Matt Aney said he was flooded with calls from nurses and other pediatricians complaining about Babywise parents who would not give up strict feeding schedules against medical advice.

In eight months, Aney has collected about 300 summaries of medical files of babies with diagnoses of abnormally slow weight gain or "failure to thrive."

Experts warn that strict rules packaged as gospel can be dangerous

In one extreme case, a five-month-old was taken to a hospital when he refused to eat. The parents, who were Christian missionaries who had taken an Ezzo class, were feeding the baby every four hours. ("A flexible 3-4 routine" is what the Ezzos recommend).

In two months the baby gained only two ounces, far below the normal ounce per day. The baby spent the next seven months hooked up to a feeding tube.

Richelle Barrett, a Kansas mother who raised two of her three children without the program, said reading *On Being Babywise* actually mellowed her.

"Babywise helped me to not be a clock watcher and get over my perfectionist tendencies," she said. She recalled discovering that one of her sons had been fed off schedule at his nursery school.

"I threw a fit," she recalled. "But now I've learned to consider other people's feelings."

Terri Smedley of Concord, N.C., has not had such a positive experience. She was initially excited when a friend gave her a Babywise book at her baby shower; Smedley has a seizure condition that requires her to get enough rest, and she thought having a baby who slept all night would help.

But as soon as the baby was born, she found herself "obsessed" with schedules. "We were so stressed out," she recalled. "We were in bondage to our house. We never went anywhere because we were afraid we might get off schedule."

After a few weeks she gave up and "enjoyed the baby much, much more that way."

GINNY Hunt, a mother of three in Fredericksburg, Va., also cooled off the experience. Hunt took a video course in California on the method and remembers thinking, "Wow, if we don't do this we'll be putting our children in danger. Who knows what they'll grow up to be like?"

She started using Babywise methods with her two older children, but when her third came along, she didn't follow the recommended nursing schedule because she had already raised two children as demand feeders. But she did try to let her 4-week-old sleep through the night.

Her epiphany came on the third night, when he cried for three hours.

"Suddenly, I jumped up and rushed into the room and grabbed the baby and begged his forgiveness," she recalled, saying, "I'll never do this to you again."

She said she also became disturbed by the behavior of her older children. They were like "Stepford children," she said, asking, "Can I appeal your decision?" every time she said no to something.

"Of course it worked. They were model children. But the cost was too high.

"I don't want them to look at me that way," she decided. "I don't want them to view God that way."

(The Washington Post)



A bit too earnest



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Gogo Pahot O Yoter (Gogo, More or Less), a CD-ROM in Hebrew, by Bina, distributed by Bug Multisystem, requires Windows 95 and up and a Pentium computer, for ages four to seven, NIS 149.

Rating: ★★★½

From the amount of software preparing preschoolers for first grade, it would seem that parents' anxiety about their children's future success begins way before high-school pupils run the gauntlet of matriculation exams.

One wonders: If kids have to be experts in their first-grade curriculum even before they learn to sing *Shalom Kita Alef*, what do their teachers do all year?

This disk, teaching and testing about 60 different arithmetic skills, seems to have good intentions behind it. In fact, it's so earnest that there's a large special section of text for parents with pointers on raising kids successfully ("talk to them," "listen to them" and "honor them" and "encourage their participation" in family activities): coping with the move from kindergarten to first grade; advice on how to assess a school's quality; descriptions of phonetic, cognitive and other reading techniques; and a listing of nine experimental schools around the country.

But the language used in this well-meaning material is so technical and pedagogic, my only conclusion is that parents who can understand it will already know these things or where to get help.

Parents who don't have the interest or time to read all the text may want to check up, nevertheless, on their kid's progress in understanding the math exercises. They can print out a special graph showing how well they did in a dozen different mathematical skills, from comprehending geometric shapes and series of numbers, to counting, size, addition and subtraction.

By contrast, the material in the disk is much too easy for the average seven-year-old on the higher end of the age scale designated by Bina. Three-, four- and five- year-olds, however, might find it interesting – if they have the patience to go through all five dozen types of problems – but kids beyond that age would probably be bored.

GOGO is a balloon-shaped character, a new version of Bina's Shlompey, who narrates the disk and gives instructions to users. The home screen consists of a house with a spiral staircase; kids must wander with their mouse from one scene to another, each of which has icons that are clicked to open up a math game.

Users can start from scratch and be presented problems at the level of difficulty calculated by the program on the basis of early scores – or they can click an icon for the right to be asked which of three levels they prefer.

For example, the idea of lines and rows is taught by requiring users to drag a series of colored screws from one side of the screen and drop them in the correct holes on a robot's chest; just find the hole in the third line and the fourth row. In another exercise, one must explode balloons marked with numbers that answer simple addition problems.

In yet another, a centipede with 10 numbered body segments displays numbers in incorrect sequence, and they have to be placed in the right order.

Gogo also asks users to click on a group described orally from among four possibilities: there's one blue duck and two orange ducks. Children who do well in their exercises will "earn" segments of three keys, which allow them to "enter" secret rooms in the house.

The graphics are quite rich and the background music pleasant. The developers seem to have invested imagination – much less than the Center for Educational Technology's producers of *Yesh Li Sod: Ani Lomed Heshbon*, but still quite a lot.

Nevertheless, both of these arithmetic-teaching disks are aimed at the same age group, and both are examples of overkill.

Moto Racer 2, a CD-ROM in English by Delphine Software International, distributed by Hed Arzi Multimedia, requires Windows 95 and up and a Pentium computer, for all ages, NIS 219

Rating: ★★★★½

RACING programs were among the first put on five-and-a-quarter-inch floppy diskettes when personal computer games were born. Since then, with the advanced technology of multimedia CD-ROMs, they have come very far in realism, speed, options and scenery.

This disk, aimed mostly at the teenage-boy audience, encourages fast motorcycle riding: one would hope that the disk will help them get the zoom-zoom out of their system and they won't adopt these deadly habits on real highways.

A large number of configurations have to be programmed in for it to work. All of these are in English, but Hed Artzi has produced a 31-page Hebrew booklet to explain all of this (it was careless in its production: four pages appear twice!).

The user decides the type, color and gearbox (automatic or shift) of the motorcycle of his choice; whether he wants to race against the computer or up to seven other players on a network or even the Internet; the number of laps and length of the pit-stop; the shape, topography and scenery of the course (Grand Prix, Sahara, forest, Amazonia or Brittany); level of difficulty; and the weather (sunny, rainy, snowy, cloudy), and even whether you want the bike's shadow to appear.

Whether you use the arrow keys or a joystick, you have to program in the buttons used to manipulate the motorcycle. But once you get a hang of it, this configuration doesn't take too long.

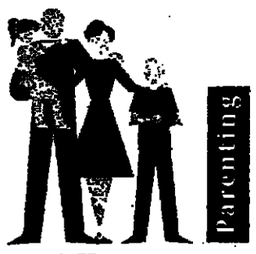
Users are advised first to practice racing, and then go into a single race. Only if you've really perfected your eye-hand coordination should you venture into the championship level: graduating to this level only allows you to drive in the wrong direction against incoming bikes (this certainly should not be practiced on a real track!).

One can also show off acrobatic skills, such as driving on the back wheel only or hurtling over a sand dune.

The scenery – a lake, urban streets, a country road, temperate forest route, a desert – that the driver passes is very realistic and it doesn't repeat itself very much. However, there are billboards along the way with Yamaha, Mobil and other real commercial advertisements along the way; it's highly likely that these companies paid for their inclusion and exposure.

If your kids like racing software and promise it will only be cathartic but not applicable on the road, you could hardly find a better disk than this.

How children react when mom goes away



By Ruth Mason

On a recent Shabbat, two days after a friend and her husband returned from a week-long trip to Europe, their seven-year-old daughter had an extreme reaction to a routine reprimand.

Sivan threatened to run away from home, screamed, cried, slammed doors and would not be comforted for several hours. Finally, her mother (my friend) realized what was happening.

"She's paying us back for being away," she said.

When Sivan's mother told her she understood that she was getting out all her sad and angry feelings about Mommy and Daddy being away, Sivan calmed down, sat on her mother's lap and didn't leave it for the rest of the afternoon.

There are times when parents and children must be apart – because of a business trip, a hospital stay (often for the birth of a sibling) or when mom and dad decide they need a vacation *sans* little ones.

We can minimize our children's anxiety – and our own – if we give some thought to the matter ahead of time and plan ways to stay connected even when we're apart.

Child-development experts say that children under the age of two have no "object constancy," that is, they don't maintain an image of you in their minds when you are not around. This doesn't mean that your child doesn't remember you when you are gone, but that she doesn't actively think of you when she doesn't see you.

Children of this age could be helped during the separation by reminders of you that help them understand where you are and that you will be coming back.

One way to do this is to make a short book with photos of yourselves. Include in the book one sentence per page that explains what you are doing while you are away.

On the last page you can staple a picture of you hugging your child and write something like, "When Mommy and Daddy come back, we'll give Tanya a big hug." You might also hang a photo of yourselves at eye level, where she will see it throughout the day.

THE most important thing is to leave a toddler with someone she knows very well. Hopefully, this can be a grandparent, a relative or a regular caretaker. It also helps for the child to be in her own home surrounded by familiar things.

But if the child is very comfortable in a grandparent's or another relative's home, that can also work well.

No matter how old your child is, be sure to explain where you will be going, what you will be doing there and when you will be back. Also tell the children who will be looking after her and find out what they will be doing while you are away.

Some parents think they can save children tears and sadness if they slip out the door, but experts are unanimous in their belief that parents should *never* leave without saying goodbye.

Older children might like to take care of a prized possession of mom's or dad's – like a favorite necklace or scarf – while they are away. It helps them maintain the connection with a parent who is not there.

Although you may think it's better not to phone because your child, especially if he is young, might cry when he hears your voice, telephoning is actually a concrete way to help your young child realize that you haven't vanished, and that you are thinking of him.

If your children are above the age of four, you can make a special calendar for them to cross off the days until your return. You can also tape yourself telling them a story or singing a lullaby that they can listen to before going to sleep. Some parents like to leave little gifts around for the children to find while they are gone.

Even if you have prepared your child very well for the separation, you can expect some "feedback" when you return. Your child may express his anger at your leaving by misbehaving or seeming distant. It helps to understand what these feelings are about and to accept them.

As Sivan's mother said, "It was amazing. As soon as I acknowledged what her feelings were about, she completely calmed down."

It helps to realize that just as it takes us time to re-enter after a vacation, it takes our children time to get used to us being back.

Gardener's Corner



A few pits and lots of patience

By Batsheva Mink

Have you ever wondered what would happen if you planted all those lovely pits that you find in your fruit? It is amazing the amount of household refuse that can be turned into useful decorative plants given half a chance.

We nearly all know someone who has grown an avocado from a stone. They will say "it's so easy." But when we try it, nothing happens.

Adults as well as children all have those philosophical moments when they are struck by the power and mystery of life the seed represents.

Who isn't impressed, planting or scattering a handful of seed which could grow into 50-meter-high trees or even taller – or even seeing them come up at all?

Just think, while your lemon and tangerine seeds are tossed into the garbage bag, some lucky person is picking tangerines and lemons from a tree that cost nothing except a few pits and a lot of patience. Even if you do not succeed in growing a fully mature fruit tree, you can get some very attractive houseplants.

Then again, many keen gardeners' aim is to grow and experiment with something different rather than saving a shekel or two.

Many of the plants you can raise yourself are not to be found in nurseries or florist shops. For example, has anyone ever come across a coffee or peanut plant in the shop window? Even if they were available, surely nothing can compare with raising your own coffee plant. We learn more about plants just from just taking care of them, than with all the instructions put together.

We learn far more from raising them at home than from buying a fully mature plant.

When dealing with discarded pits and stones, it is quite a gamble as there are no money-back guarantees, yet they can be fascinating for those willing to "have a go."

Given the right treatment, coffee beans, peanuts and most fruit seeds can be grown into miniature trees for indoors. One disappointing feature is that you cannot expect your home-grown trees to bear fruit under ordinary room conditions.

All gardeners know that there are many different ways of propagation. Not all plants are grown from seeds, as with the case of a pineapple – the top is all you need.

Some fruit trees like apples, pears, plums, peaches and apricots need a period of cold before they can germinate. This can be achieved by potting them up and leaving them outside during a cold winter, after which they will germinate when the weather warms up.

Another method is to place them in a small plastic bag with a little peat moss and put it in the refrigerator for 4-8 weeks. After that period of cold, they will germinate outside during the spring. Other seeds like dates, coffee and citrus just need gentle warmth to get them to germinate.

If you do manage to grow them to a fruiting size, it is a gamble, as you never know how they will turn out. This means they may not be identical to the fruit they were grown from. Nevertheless it is interesting to find out.

Growing peanuts is very popular with children. They were once known as "groundnuts," because peanuts actually form below soil level together with the roots – in other words, it plants its own seed.

You can buy fresh nuts from health-food stores, and then plant them in clean potting mix – up to four nuts in a 14-cm. pot.

Crack the shells open and then push the nuts together with shells down into the compost to about 1 cm deep, before watering .

As peanuts need warmth to germinate and grow, put a plastic bag over the pot with an elastic band and place on a sunny window-sill. They have clover-like leaves, producing small yellow pea-like flowers.

Remove the bag as soon as you can see the plant growing. Keep watering and feed once a week with a liquid fertilizer. At eight to 10 weeks, you should notice small yellow flowers, after which time you should cut back on watering and feeding. These flowers will push themselves underground and produce edible nuts.

CITRUS need to be ripe before removing their seeds. Oranges, lemons, grapefruit, tangerines, and limes are all suitable to grow. Place four to six seeds in a pot. Water well and seal with a plastic bag. Place in a warm spot. The pits need a temperature of 18-22° for germination. Thin out the small plants after germination, leaving two or three plants.

Pineapples have a collection of leaves on top that are usually cut off and thrown away. These "leafy tops" should be cut off with 1 cm. of flesh attached. Place into a shallow saucer of water and keep topped up.

Alternatively they can be potted directly into pots with good drainage potting mix. Pineapples need plenty of light and warmth to grow well. They will put up with quite a lot of neglect and won't mind if you forget to water them occasionally.

A small pot is best to begin with. The only thing pineapple cannot stand is being cold. You can safely overwinter your pineapple in a temperature of 17–20°, but for successful growing try to aim for 20–28°. Feed once a week during the summer. Remember, the more leaf that is made, the tastier the fruits will be. Pineapples produce fruits during their second year and, if you are lucky, during the first year.

Coffee plants, as well as being an important commercial crop, make very attractive evergreen houseplants. You will need to buy the seeds (as opposed to the roasted beans).

The coffee seeds must be given exactly the same temperature as the pineapple top, and the nearer to 27° you can keep it, the sooner they will germinate. Place three beans about 2 cms. deep in small pots. Germination usually takes about three weeks. Reduce them to a single seedling after germination. Keep in a warm sunny place. If you cannot maintain warm conditions for your plant, you may have to wait until early summer.

AVOCADO stones are quite easy to germinate. Wash an avocado stone thoroughly, then insert three toothpicks into the pit for support. Rest the toothpicks on the edge of a glass filled with water, suspending the stone in the water. Make sure the pointed end of the seed is up. Place it in a warm, light window. When the "skin" cracks, peel it off and replace the seed in water. In several weeks, the seed will throw roots and split. Soon after, you will be able to see a tiny tree emerge through the crack.

When your avocado tree reaches 15 to 20 centimeters tall, cut off 3 cms and it will branch, giving you an attractive houseplant.

Date palms make elegant house and garden plants. As they are native to tropical and sub-tropical areas they need gentle warmth for sowing and growing. During the first year, all you are likely to see is a large blade of grass. As with most trees, they establish their root system before starting to send out leaves.

Soak the date seeds for two days in tepid water. Place seeds on clean potting soil just under the surface, keep moist in a temperature of 20-24°.

Pomegranates are absolutely loaded with seeds. The skin of the fruit should look a little on the dry side before removing the seeds. Try to wash and dry the seeds before sowing in pots. Sowing is as for any other small seeds. Cover them only lightly with compost and check regularly to make sure they are moist. The seed needs a minimum temperature of 21° to germinate.

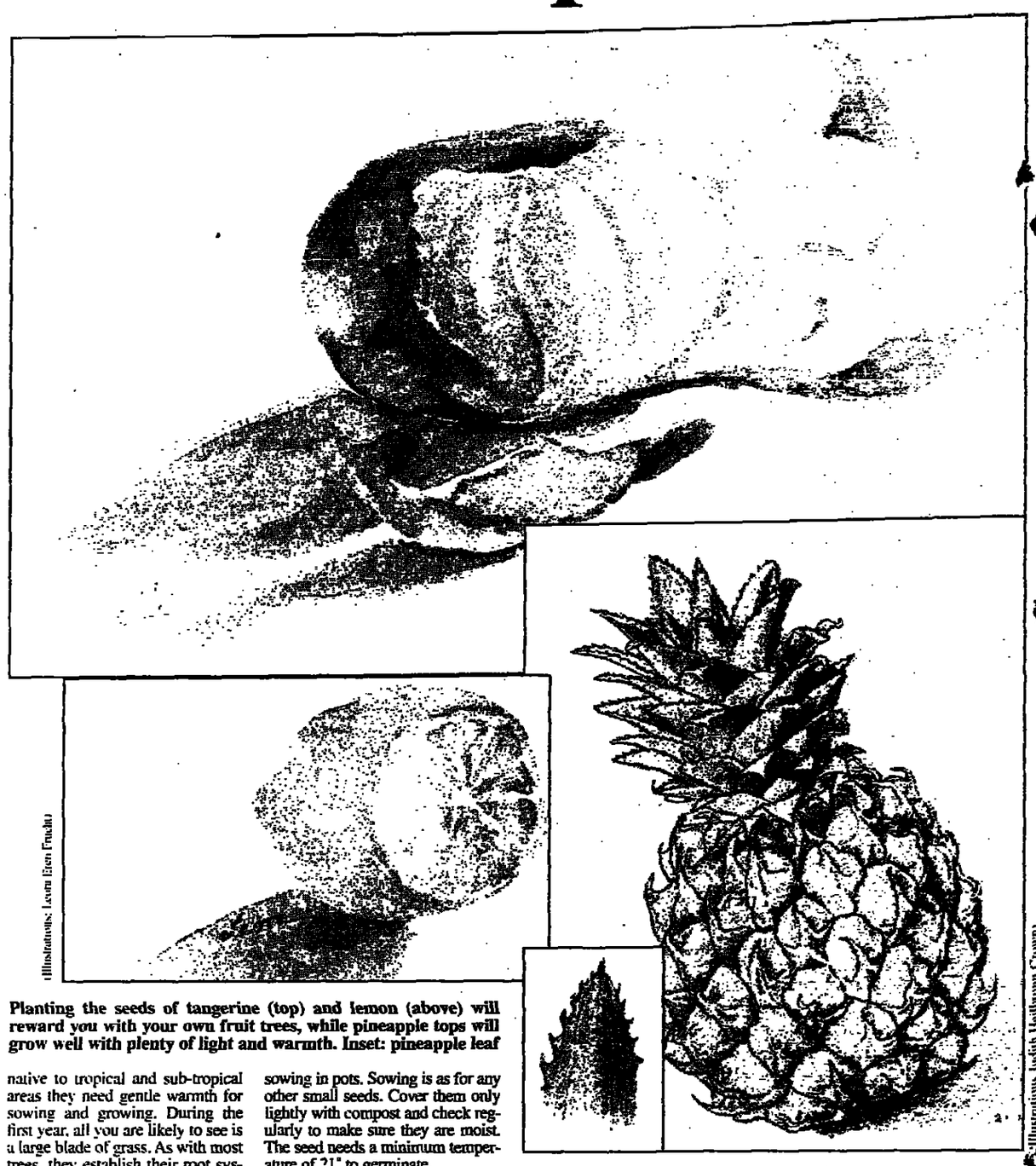
When your plant starts to outgrow its pot, transfer it to a larger one very carefully as the plants dislike being moved during their early stages. Grow in a sunny position.

Peach, plum, apple, apricot and almond need a period of cold to speed up germination, in order to soften the hard coats of the seeds. Place a handful of moist peat moss in a tin or plastic bag and place the stones into this, cover and put into a cold place, preferably a refrigerator, at 2-4° for six to eight weeks. After this the stones should be sown two to a pot, watered and placed in a warm place to germinate.

After germination move to a sunny spot. If you are lucky enough to get two plants to germinate in one pot, one plant should be removed to give the other room to grow. Under ordinary room conditions you cannot expect your tree to bear fruit, but planted in the garden the trees should take from two to five years to start to produce their blossoms.

Batsheva Mink is a curator of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Givat Ram.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, POB 3943, Jerusalem 91039.



(Illustrations: Leora Eren Frucht)

(Illustrations: Judith Heilbronn Crown)

Planting the seeds of tangerine (top) and lemon (above) will reward you with your own fruit trees, while pineapple tops will grow well with plenty of light and warmth. Inset: pineapple leaf

TIP OF THE WEEK:

If you have any garlic cloves lying around your kitchen, this would be a good time to plant them to turn them into fresh plants. Garden or pots, it makes no difference, as long as it is a sunny site. One kilo of garlic cloves broken into pieces is capable of making 250-300 new plants. Just separate them and push them into the soil with only their tips showing. Full sun suits them best. They can be harvested and used whole while young, or left to mature for April to June.

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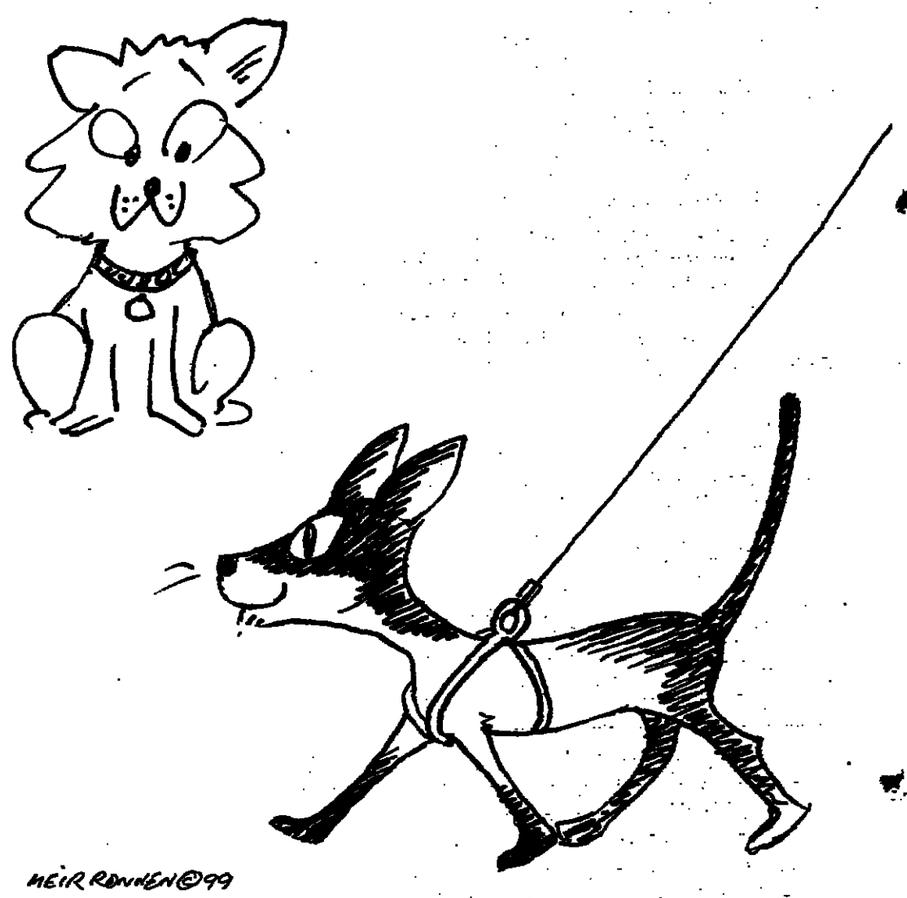
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Be cautious about cat collars

Heads 'N' Tails



By D'vora Ben Shaul



MEIR ROWDEN©99

A good many people have asked about collars for cats. Some have asked about the flea- and tick-prevention collars and others are interested in identity collars.

Flea- and tick-collars are very effective and, if a cat that goes out of the house is also brushed and occasionally dusted with an insecticidal powder, they do keep a cat free of pests.

But here one needs to be very cautious. Not only must any insecticidal powder used on cats be one that is specifically labeled as "safe for cats," so must the collar. Not every insecticide used in these collars is suitable for felines. Use only a collar that is specifically made for cats.

In addition, the flea- and tick-collars that are made for cats have a strip of elastic between the buckle and the strip. This ensures that if a cat should get caught by the collar while climbing a tree or such activity, it will not accidentally hang itself. The collar will simply slip over its head.

For indoor cats there is no need for such collars.

In fact, there is no reason why an indoor cat should ever have any fleas; and as for ticks, they would be a rarity. Fleas are not carried into the house even on persons who have pets. They come either from contact with an animal that has fleas, or from rugs, blankets and such where fleas have laid their eggs.

Once the cat has been freed of fleas and all possible sources of eggs have been vacuumed, sunned and, if need be, sprayed with a good insecticide made especially for this purpose, the problem should be solved once and for all. As for ticks, they are highly visible and if one single tick does manage to hitch a ride on your clothing after a walk in bushes and tall grass, then it is easily spotted and removed.

Never use a flea collar on a kitten younger than seven months and do not leave the collar on a female with kittens, since the kittens may lick the collar and be harmed by the pesticide. Leave the collar off her until the kittens are weaned and have gone to their new homes.

IDENTITY collars for cats, especially outdoor cats, are a good idea, but here again it is most important that any cat collar have an elasticized section.

There are several types at pet stores. The identity disc should be clear and easily read. Don't try to be cute and don't choose ornamental script designs. The cat's name is far less important than your name, address and telephone number.

Be sure the information is up-to-date. I once found a cat with a collar. The cat had been injured and there was no one at the old number who could tell me where the owners now lived. Finding them was a chore that a good many people wouldn't be willing to undertake.

Incidentally, there are some cats, especially oriental breeds, that will walk on a leash with no objection. But do not use a collar and leash, rather a cat harness. This is a lightweight, double figure-of-eight harness that slips over the legs and is snug underneath. The leash is attached to a small ring where the straps cross behind the shoulder blades.

These harnesses are usually made of elastic material, in whole or in part, and if a cat accidentally runs off with its harness on, it can easily wriggle free if it finds itself caught on something.



هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Hillelujah for Lauryn

By ALONA WARTOFSKY

Hip-hop superstar Lauryn Hill, who just won five Grammys, is pushing the genre closer than ever to winning true mass appeal.

By merging the two most successful pop music phenomena of recent years – hip-hop and the female singer-songwriter – Hill has broken beyond hip-hop's core audience to attract older music fans and particularly black women.

The self-assured 24-year-old from South Orange, N.J., whose nominations include best new artist and album of the year, is the first woman – and, more significantly, the first hip-hop artist – to win so many nominations.

Her triple-platinum solo debut, *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*, has met with almost universal critical acclaim, but what impresses the Grammy voters are record sales.

In a time of increasingly fragmented musical genres, Hill has managed to attract a broad swath of the listening public by melding hip-hop with the introspective emotions of the singer-songwriter tradition and the social conscience and smooth grooves of old-school R&B.

And part of the attraction is simply Hill: She's smart, she's talented, she's sophisticated and she's sexy – the doe-eyed, down-to-earth sister next door with the striking dreadlocks and dazzling style.

"People who aren't into hip-hop on a regular basis find most rap to be kind of abrasive and loud and angry, and they don't understand or relate to it," says David Mays, publisher of the hip-hop magazine *The Source*.

"This is definitely a record with a hip-hop sensibility, but it's... not violent. She's got a lot of R&B tracks as well as straight rap tracks. Your mom who hates rap could listen to Lauryn Hill's album and probably like it."

HILL, who emerged on the pop scene with the hugely successful hip-hop trio the Fugees, wrote 14 of the 15 tracks on *Miseducation*. She also produced the ambitious, intelligent and deeply personal album, which is essentially hip-hop but also draws liberally from classic soul, gospel and reggae.

That she is both an able songwriter and a studio technician places her in a different category from other female stars like Janet Jackson, who speak of control and empowerment yet allow their sound to be packaged by their producers.

Hill's album is shaped by a hip-hop aesthetic, yet she returns to the musicality and social commitment of such classic soul artists as Curtis Mayfield, Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder.

No wonder the accolades are piling up. In December, *Spin* magazine named her artist of the year, *Entertainment Weekly* honored her as entertainer of the year, and *Rolling Stone* designated *Miseducation* the year's best album.

Hill's fellow rappers have joined in the adulation. Public Enemy's Chuck D, himself a hip-hop icon, has compared her to reggae visionary Bob Marley. (Marley's son, Rohan, is her fiancee and the father of her two children.)

If *Miseducation* is a concept album, the concept is Hill's struggle for maturity and independence in the face of her own heartbreak as well as larger social miseries. The song "Every Ghetto, Every City" celebrates growing up in the early '80s, when a bag of Bon Tons cost 25 cents and "everybody used to do the wop."

"To Zion" is a heartfelt tribute to Hill's son that candidly explores her decision to carry the unplanned baby to term and raise him. But mostly, the album is about surviving heartache – and learning to find strength within.

"SHE'S raising the standards of hip-hop," says Crystal Jones, 32, a longtime Fugees fan who bought Hill's solo album the week of its release. "She teaches women self-respect, how to love yourself. She tells us that a lot of guys are out for one thing, and we don't need to give in. Women are embracing that."

Unlike hard-edged female "booty" rappers like Lil' Kim and Foxy Brown, who focus mostly on what's between their legs or on their own blatant materialism, Hill exudes a strong sense of purpose that strikes a particular chord among black women. The album's first single, "Doo Wop (That Thing)," admonishes both women and men about self-respect and responsibility, as Hill repeatedly poses a question: "How you gon' win when you ain't right within?"

"A lot of us felt that we were losing our voice in music," says Christine Rhone, 31, a confessed Hill fanatic. "We were being represented by Foxy Brown and Lil' Kim. The images out there for us were horrible, they were dismal. Rappers were referring to us as bitches and ho's. And here comes this woman who sings about childbirth in one song. In another, she takes rappers to task for not inspiring the community through their music."

(The Washington Post)



Lauryn Hill: 'She's smart, she's talented, she's sophisticated and she's sexy.' (AP)

NEWS
of the muse

It's axiomatic

Axiom is a new Hebrew-language magazine on the Internet. It features all things Israeli, with a premium on culture and humor. It is a stand-alone Internet magazine with no paper edition in the works or planned – one of the few Internet mags that is not an abstract of a printed original. *Axiom* has been designed to be a work in progress, with constant changes in content.

The creators are journalist Emanuel Bar-Kadma, most recently of *Yediot Aharonot*, and Tammy Zilberg, past *Ma'ariv* culture editor.

Already *Axiom* has attracted to its team of writers journalists in the fields of classical music, theater, the arts, literature, rock, jazz, and social issues. There are plans to add coverage of fashion, design, food and tourism. For all those curious to see the magazine, it is already available at www.axioma.co.il. *Rachel Bell*

Stomp to stomp in

On their first visit to Israel, the popular British band Stomp will be appearing with original members at the ancient Roman theater in Caesarea, with performances scheduled for July 22-29.

Stomp originally performed at the Edinburgh Festival, went on to perform widely in London, made commercials for Coca-Cola and Heineken, opened the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, performed at the 1996 Oscar ceremony, and were featured on television and in film. Four Stomp groups have developed, one of which performs regularly in New York. *Rachel Bell*

Gearing up for summer

We're not too far from Troy, are we? Come June 16-20, we'll get closer when the Royal Shakespeare Company brings its production of Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida* to the Habimah National Theater. *Troilus* director Michael Boyd has set this story of love and betrayal under the walls of ancient Troy in the Thirties.

From August 4 at the Noga Theater in Jaffa, you can see the award-winning London musical *Shockheaded Peter* based on the German cautionary tale about a naughty little boy who comes to a bad end. *Helen Kaye*

Jazz bops over to Ashdod

The fifth *Jazz in Winter* takes off in Ashdod from March 11-13 at the municipal auditorium. Under the artistic directorship of pianist Leonid Ptashka, it showcases mostly local groups and new compositions. This year's offerings include German gypsy violinist Hannes Beckman, who's also lending his bow to the Rami Shuler band together with Irish flutist Uri Miles, the Arale Kaminski Trio in *Kaminski Plays Ptashka*, the Ganelin Trio, Russian jazz violinist David Golochekin, Freeway from New York with wunderkind pianist Tal Berman, aged 12, and Avraham Felder's Dixieland Quintet from Netanya. *Helen Kaye*

Pajama fun and games

By AMY KLEIN

Time flies when you're having fun, so a night watching the Light Opera Group of the Negev's production of *The Pajama Game* went by in a flash.

Director Meir Vardi marks each aspect of this production with a lighthearted exuberance. From the seemingly simple-step dance numbers to the raucous flirtatiousness between the main characters, the play is like the flounced skirts worn by the women factory workers: bouncy and sweet.

The setting is the Sleep-Tite Pajama Factory, a major industry in the sleepy Midwest town of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, circa 1950. The main story involves a workers' strike against management: but the real interest of the show is of the love-and-other-stuff between the various players.

The romance between the husband-and-wife team Steve and Rosa Howden, playing Sid Sorokin, the management's chief negotiator, and Babe Williams, the head of the grievance committee, is electric: with much smooching and death-defying proclamations of love one hopes their marriage is as passionate in real life. In one of the best scenes, the two try to outdo each other in the song. "There once was a man."

OTHER performance highlights were Ed Spitz as Hines, the time-management man plagued by pangs of jealousy for his floozy wife Gladys (Arlene Gilboa); and Dov Landzbaum as Prez, whose staunch leadership of the grievance committee is sidelined by his chasing almost every skirt on stage.

Like many musicals, the plot of *The Pajama Game* is thin, yet the colorfully clad factory workers – choreographed to precision to simulate assembly-line work, or bouncing acrobatically across the stage at the company picnic – serve to distract, and more importantly, to amuse.

Not to say that the plot isn't current. Particularly in Israel, with the Histadrut's Amir Peretz running his own workers' party, and the free-market working practices coming to a head against old-time unions, one can appreciate the distress of the workers' demand for a seven-and-a-half cent raise.

Yet *The Pajama Game* – with the orchestra ably conducted by David Walden – one tends to forget the heavier issues in the play.

But that's what fun's all about, isn't it?

Soloists provide shivers of bliss

CLASSICAL DISCS

By MICHAEL ARZENSTADT

German mezzo-soprano Waltraud Meier is one of the most exciting singers of our generation, and her new disc is clear proof of that. *Waltraud Meier, Mahler* (RCA 74321 57129 2) is a presentation of three Mahler song cycles which are sung with expressive and touching melancholy.

Under the equally expressive, somber and at times somewhat over-emotional accompaniment of Lorin Maazel and his Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra – a great orchestra in general and a superb Mahler orchestra in particular – we get a poetic reading of the score without its occasional bombastic approach.

This is Mahler, the desperate romantic, at its best, and the *Kindertotenlieder* (songs about the death of children) is one of the most touching renditions of the cycle I have heard. Meier's warm, lush and very delicate voice, which can send shivers down your spine in the major Verdi or Wagner repertoire, can do the same when it becomes more intimate.

CELLIST Yehuda Hanani and pianist Michael Levin (*Eco Classics* ECO-CD-009) bring all the warmth and poetry one can yearn for to Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata and to other works for cello and piano by Schumann and Schubert.

Hanani is a very personal cellist, who in tandem with Levin's tender and robust piano playing brings beauty and charm to these pieces.

More Schubert comes from the Hagen Quartet in their new disc (*Beethoven/Schubert, Hagen Quartet*, Deutsche Grammophon 457 615-2) in which they perform the D.887 String Quartet in G major fully and dramatically.

Following Beethoven's F minor Op. 95 quartet in the same disc, the Hagen foursome emerge as a very Germanic classic ensemble that tries to present the music without any romantic approach. It can and it does work, above all, because the quartet members are professionals, but it leaves the listener somewhat detached.

Soprano Jill Feldman (*Udite Amanti*, Linn CKD 005) presents 17th-century Italian love songs by Sigismondo d'India, Caccini, Monteverdi and other composers. Feldman's delectable soprano, accompanied by Nigel North on the theorbo and archlute, brings all the poetry, gentle tenderness and sunlit delight into these songs.

This music has a tendency to become very boring after a few minutes, but Feldman manages to give each one of the 11 songs she performs a clear individual identity.

Just as enchanting is the new disc of Al Ayre Espanol. This Spanish baroque ensemble was in Israel earlier this season, performing some of their discoveries from a very rich and unfamiliar musical world. *J. De Torres Cantadas* (Deutsche Harmonia Mundi 05472 77503 2) is a wonderful example of a baroque disc even though it presents five cantatas that are very similar in style and execution. The music is most enjoyable, the performance is impeccable and the overall approach exudes joie de vivre.

MARIANNE Ronez (*Mysterien-sonaten*, Winter & Winter 910 029-2) presents 15 sonatas by Biber which are based on the Mysteries of the Rosary on her baroque violin, accompanied by the Affetti Musicali ensemble.

This is an invigorating, dramatic presentation of baroque music, somewhat different from the average approach to the style yet making a lot of sense. Ronez manages to express the real essence of these sonatas in a reading that engages the listener in a most dramatic and almost exotic way. As usual, the accompanying booklet of the Winter & Winter label is exemplary in content and design alike.

David Bedford is a name probably unfamiliar to local music lovers, but after hearing his disc on the NMC British label (D049) one would immediately want to become more acquainted with his work.

Bedford is a composer whose music sounds more akin to the baroque and even earlier periods than to the end of the millennium. His *Twelve Hours of Sunset* is performed with devotion and sincerity by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins, while his recorded concerto manages to combine beautifully the baroque-like purity of the recorder sound and the overall musical aesthetics of a contemporary composer.

This disc is proof that today's composers can and do write charming melodic music.

A smack of reality

By SONIE LEMOR

"Comedy is a state of mind," says playwright Ilan Hatzor. "It's all about how you choose to see a situation." He's talking about *Jacko*, which opens at the Beit Lessin Theater in Tel Aviv on Friday.

Jacko (Moshe Ivgi) is a poor fish. In the comedy's first 10 minutes, Jacko is fired from his job of 25 years, finds out that he is impotent, that his wife Geula (Hilla Surjon) is expecting his best friend's child, and that he was adopted.

In addition, he guessed the winning numbers in a lottery worth NIS 8 million, but forgot to send his ticket in because he had to rub his wife's feet.

"Betrayal, unemployment, the works," says Hatzor, and says that he wants the play to have that smack of reality right from the start.

"In a well-written contemporary play, I think that the story should be fixed in the writer's mind and then looked at almost like a timeline," he explains. "Somewhere along that line is the climax, the turning point in the characters' lives. The closer you get to that specific point, that high level of energy, the better the play will be. The rest is just as important, but it's background. A good story and strong characters will be able to give that background even if the story is shown from a critical turning point."

The play deals with Jacko's efforts to resolve his dilemma and the cast's seven other actors play the 29 roles needed for that, an idea, says Hatzor, "partially inspired by Mayakovsky's *Tragedy*. This is a story about one man's suffering. All of the other characters are made of cardboard, as if to say that he was like the only real human being and the others in his life are only passersby. Jacko is a character that has been developing in my mind for a long time now. I worked on this particular play for almost two years."



Moshe Ivgi as the luckless 'Jacko.'

AT 34, Hatzor is already an international playwright, with his *Re'ulim* ("The Masked" – first place at the Acre festival in 1990), translated into several languages, including English. He also did the adaptation of the play *The State Comptroller* ("Mevaker Hamedina") that has been running for the last four years at the Cameri Theater. It has recently been made into a television drama.

Other plays include *Hey Rimona!* (with Ilan Sheinfeld) and *Hamatziah*, a television drama.

Currently "I am working on a play about [philosopher] Uriel Da Costa: I have been writing it on and off for about six years."

Ivgi, whose most recent movie, *Dangerous Acts*, is currently playing countrywide, says Hatzor has a very clear view of his characters. "but he leaves us a lot of latitude. Jacko goes through a lot, and it is a very demanding role."

"It's demanding physically as well as emotionally. He is an okay guy who just has really bad luck. In the second act, he becomes sort of vengeful, and almost evil. Evil can be an addictive quality. If someone possesses the ability to be cruel, he just finishes himself off."

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Today's shekel



In brief

Citibank selects Nice for HK operations

Citibank, a division of Citicorp, has chosen NICE Systems' NiceLog digital recording system for its retail call center and financial dealing room operations in Hong Kong.

The deal is one of many that NICE, a leading provider of digital recording and quality management solutions based in Ra'anana, has signed with Citibank.

NiceLog, a computer telephony integrated system which enhances customer service and improves security, has already been installed in Citibank's US and European operations.

In Hong Kong, Citibank plans to use NiceLog for its corporate and retail banking operations. On the corporate side NiceLog will be used in the foreign exchange dealing rooms and the treasury department while on the retail side the system will be used in 18 bank branches, with more to follow. James Lau, vice president of Citigroup Global Technology Infrastructure said that Citibank chose the NiceLog system because of its "functionality and ease of use." The company declined to reveal how much the deal is worth.

Nicky Blackburn

Alcatel buys Xylan for at $2b.

By CRISPIAN BALMER

PARIS (Reuters) – French telecoms group Alcatel said yesterday it was buying US Internet equipment maker Xylan Corp for $2 billion to boost its profile in fast-growing voice and data networks.

Alcatel said in a statement it would make a cash offer of $37 a share for all outstanding Xylan stock, with the tender opening on March 8.

That price would be a premium of about 37 percent over Xylan's closing price on Monday of $26-15/16, but Xylan stock had already surged some 39% last week on speculation that Alcatel was set to launch a takeover bid.

Alcatel added that Xylan's board was recommending that its shareholders accept the bid.

Telecommunications companies around the world are scrambling to develop their data transmission services to try to keep pace with the booming Internet market.

"Alcatel has devised and is implementing a comprehensive strategy to become a key worldwide player in the Internet field," company Chairman Serge Tchuruk said in the statement.

"The combined Alcatel/Xylan strengths in voice and data networking for enterprises will constitute a very powerful force in world corporate markets," he added.

Alcatel stock rose over 4% yesterday to 100.6 euros, although that level was still about 3% down on its end-December equivalent of 104.28.

"The market was expecting an acquisition by Alcatel in the US to match purchases of IP (Internet Protocol) network specialists by Nortel or by Lucent," said Guillaume Angue, analyst at CIC EIFB, in a note.

Lucent Technologies Inc in January agreed a $20b. takeover of Ascend Communications Inc in a deal which analysts said would pressure other European telecommunications equipment makers, including Siemens and Ericsson, to follow.

Alcatel said completion of its deal was subject to 90% of the shares being tendered and regulatory approval.

California-based Xylan makes high-bandwidth switching systems and is one of the fastest growing companies in the enterprise data field, Alcatel said.

"The synergies from combining that technology with Alcatel's resources will provide a dramatic boost to Xylan's future success," Xylan's Chief Executive Officer Steve Kim said in a statement.

Like Lucent, Alcatel, Siemens and Ericsson are major suppliers of switches and other equipment for telephone companies, but with the Internet's rise, demand has been shifting away from voice systems to those designed for data.

Euro Strategies study:

Broad-based government essential if recession is to end this year

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Israel's economic recession may come to an end by the end of this year, provided that May's elections generate a broad government comprising three or four large and medium-sized parties, according to a study issued yesterday by Euro Strategies, a Tel Aviv based, KPMG-affiliated consultancy firm.

Whether or not a broad government is established, the economic year will be split down the middle in the half that preceded and the half that followed the spring's election, according to the study.

The Israeli economy will grow in 1999 by less than 1 percent, following on the intensified slowdown registered in 1998's second half and a further weakening in world trade conditions, predict the study's authors Pinchas Landau and Avi Temkin.

The 1%-growth forecast, which would be half the size of last year's growth rate, is based on the study's expectation that public consumption will grow during the election season, while exports will increase as commerce continues to capitalize on the shekel's depreciation against the dollar last year.

In addition, the study expects growth to benefit in the course of 1999 from some monetary expansion which is bound to follow an expected fiscal correction in the aftermath of the general election.

The fiscal correction will come as a reaction to a budgetary expansion which the study says will characterize the months until the elections, thus compelling the Bank of Israel to keep interest rates relatively high.

After the elections the new government will quickly set out to trim the budget so as to cap the deficit to 1.5% of GDP by 2001. At the same time, the need to generate growth will induce the new government to re-prioritize its expenses, most notably by allocating more for infrastructure development.

Another major economic issue that will necessitate urgent treatment by the new government will be tax reform, since last year's currency liberalization has added new deformities to the tax system.

The authors say that "the best news" they have found in recent data about the economy concerns productivity, which has been growing steadily and even rapidly in recent months after several years of exceptionally slow growth. Thus, during the 12 months which ended in September 1998, business-sector productivity rose by 2% despite the fact that at the same time the number of working hours declined nearly 3% and the number of business-sector employees rose by a mere 0.4%.

Moreover, nominal wage levels failed to rise during last year's fourth quarter, despite an exceptional 6% rise in prices at the same time, in the wake of the shekel's 20% depreciation during last fall's financial crisis in Russia.

ICL tops mutual funds '98 shares

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Israel Chemicals was the most popular share in the portfolios of the country's largest mutual funds last year, according to the annual survey by Meitav Securities and Investments published yesterday.

The report showed that the largest funds hold shares in Israel Chemicals worth NIS 227 million. ICL was chosen as one of the five leading shares by eight of the nine largest funds.

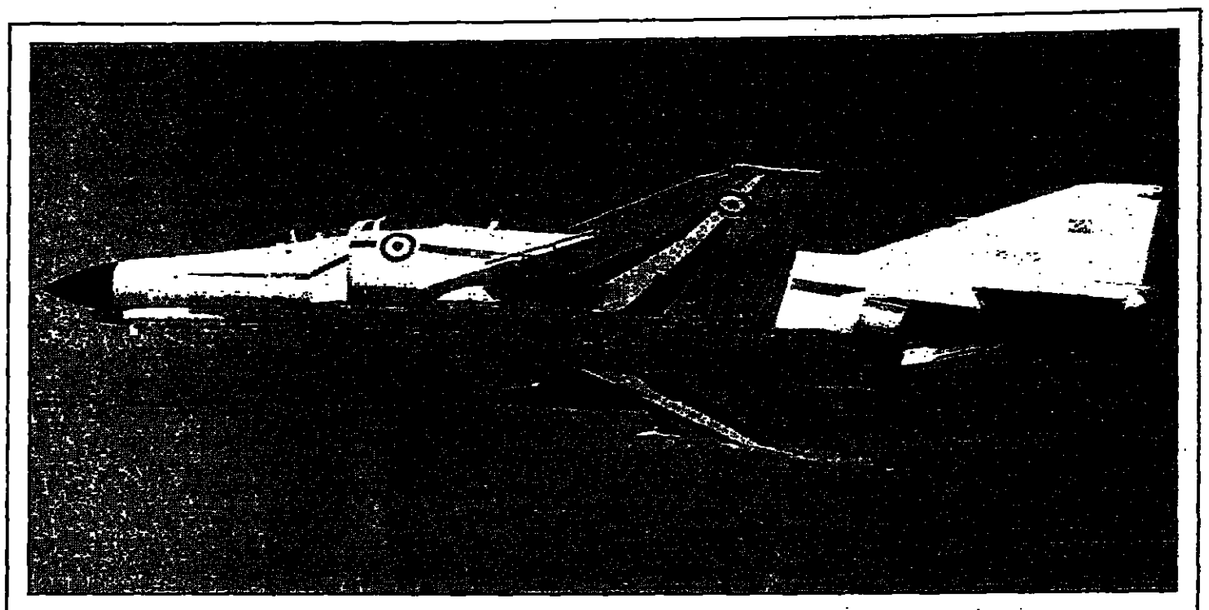
The survey examined the holdings of the nine largest mutual funds, which together hold some 95 percent of all shares held by mutual funds.

The advance of Israel Chemicals from the fourth place last year to the head of the list indicates that mutual funds have used the opportunity to increase their holdings in the company as part of the sale of government holdings in the company in the largest ever public offering on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

Bank Hapoalim (in which funds hold NIS 176m.) came in second, before Bank Leumi (NIS 161m.), Discount Investments (NIS 157), and Bezeq (NIS 148m.), which replaced Israel Discount Bank in the list of top five companies.

All of the leading shares are part of the benchmark Maof 25 index, which can be attributed to the fact that large funds prefer to invest in companies with high market capitalization.

Meitav experts note, however, that despite the fact that all the leading stocks are considered blue chip, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries and Koor Industries, which have very high market capitalization, were not included in the list.



Turkish Phantom over Israel

A Turkish F-4 Phantom, upgraded in Israel, makes its maiden supersonic test flight over Lod on February 11, two months ahead of schedule. Israel Aircraft Industries has delivered the plane, the first of several F-4s and F-5s to be upgraded for the Turkish air force, IAI president Moshe Keret said in a ceremony yesterday at company headquarters in Lod.

Hollinger fourth-quarter net up 18%

CHICAGO (Bloomberg) – Hollinger International Inc., publisher of the *Chicago Sun-Times*, *London's Daily Telegraph* and *The Jerusalem Post*, said fourth-quarter profit rose 18 percent as US and UK revenue growth offset declines at its Canadian newspapers.

Earnings from continuing operations rose to $39.9 million, or 32 cents a share, from $33.7m., or 28 cents, in the year-earlier quarter. The company was expected to earn 29 cents a share, according to a survey of five analysts by First Call Corp. Consolidated revenue fell 5% to $578.3m.

Hollinger International has focused its holdings on larger publications. It agreed to sell 45 of its smaller US community papers during the quarter, and it successfully bid for the 29% it didn't already own in Southam Inc., publisher of Canada's *National Post*. Analysts said future acquisitions are likely to be large papers outside Canada, where Hollinger's dominance in many markets could create antitrust problems. Hollinger International shares rose Monday 3/4 to 13 1/8. The company announced its earnings after the close of US trading.

Baan NV, Europe's No. 2 business-management software maker, said it lost $295 million in the fourth quarter, more than expected, as it boosted charges to cut a fifth of its workforce and sell units.

The fourth-quarter loss was $1.45 per diluted share, more than the $1.22 loss indicated last month, compared with a profit of 14 cents a share, or $29 million, in the same period in 1997.

What Holland can teach Germany about jobs

LONDON (Reuters) – Germany has lost 1.8 million jobs since 1991. The Netherlands, five times smaller, has created an extra 750,000.

And therein, economists say, lies a tale that Bonn Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine would do well to heed.

Lafontaine desperately wants the European Central Bank to cut interest rates to fuel the demand he says is vital to reduce Europe's unemployment rate of 10.7 percent.

But economists say there is a growing body of evidence to support ECB President Wim Duisenberg's counter argument that slow-burning structural reforms – such as getting tax incentives right, curbing wage costs, and encouraging job flexibility – hold the real key to job creation.

"I don't pretend to comprehend the fixation that Lafontaine has with interest rates. He should realize that Europe's unemployment problem is not because monetary policy is too tight," said Jim Power, of the Bank of Ireland in Dublin. "It's because of inflexibility, supply side rigidities, and a tax burden that is far too high, in particular on the corporate sector. I think he's just using the ECB as a scapegoat."

The European Union's monetary affairs commissioner, Yves-Thibault de Silguy, estimates that as much as two-thirds of European unemployment is structural in nature, rather than the result of a cyclical shortfall in growth.

Figures from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) bear him out.

The OECD calculates that structural unemployment – the rate below which wage inflation starts to accelerate – increased in the 1990s in most of the EU. The German rate, for example, jumped from 6.9% in 1990 to 9.6% in 1997.

Of the 11 members of the euro zone, only Ireland and the Netherlands can boast lower rates. In the Netherlands, it has dropped to 5.5% from 7.0%.

Although reunification upset Germany's policy mix for a while, boosting inflation and the budget deficit, economists say the Netherlands' outperformance speaks volumes.

The two neighbors' currencies were virtually locked for years before economic and monetary union. Their interest rates were almost identical, fiscal policy was converging in the run-up to the euro, and even wage compensation per employee was very similar between 1993 and 1998.

Yet over the same period real gross domestic product grew by 17.1% in the Netherlands and 10.7% in Germany.

Thomas Mayer, of Goldman Sachs in Frankfurt, says only structural policy can explain the difference.

The Dutch, he says, are reaping the benefits of a tripartite consensus dating back to a landmark 1982 deal in the town of Wassenaar among the government, unions, and employers on the need for wage moderation, welfare reform, and measures to increase labor market flexibility, mainly by allowing part-time employment and temporary work agencies.

"It seems that countries which have succeeded in making their economy more flexible through structural reform have experienced both higher employment and GDP growth in recent years," Mayer said in a report.

Jane Edwards, of Lehman Brothers in London, said investors in European assets are already starting to discriminate in favor of countries, such as Spain and Finland, as well as the Netherlands and Ireland, which are doing better than the core trio of Germany, France, and Italy.

"I am increasingly of the view that you are going to see some difference in real economic performance between those countries and the Big Three," Edwards said.

Jan Donders, a senior official with the Dutch government's Central Planning Bureau, said the Wassenaar agreement had created a virtuous circle for the Dutch economy.

But he placed more emphasis than Meyer on the importance of wage moderation and expressed surprise at the recent pay deal for the pace-setting engineering industry in Germany, which was worth an estimated 3.6%.

"That figure is huge. If the Germans would like advice, it would be that high wage settlements are not beneficial for the economy," Donders said.

He said the Dutch "polder model" was born out of a sense of urgency in the early 1980s, after the government's budget deficit soared and unemployment climbed to more than 10%.

"Finally people began to realize that things would have to change," Donders said.

In assessing the dynamics of policy change in Germany, some commentators draw a parallel between Social Democratic Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and the late French Socialist president Francois Mitterrand.

Both came to power after a period in opposition determined to buck the prevailing orthodoxy by pushing old-fashioned Keynesian demand-management policies to revive their sluggish economies.

Within two years, the Mitterrand experiment at go-it-alone reflation had failed. The constraints of Europe, in the form of the exchange rate mechanism, forced France to knuckle down to the discipline of tight budgets and low inflation.

Will Schroeder, whose constraint is the euro zone's agreed 3% ceiling on deficit spending, similarly bow to the present orthodoxy of structural reform and risk rending the social fabric of Europe's biggest economy? For now, economists fear that if the ECB does not agree to cut interest rates, Bonn will simply ignore the budget curbs rather than follow the Netherlands down the bumpy road of less secure lower-paying jobs and less generous welfare payments.

"Models which can be used for small countries cannot necessarily be applied to large ones," Lafontaine told the European Parliament last month.

Experts agree that structural reforms are not a magic cure.

"Germany's labor market performance has been less than stellar," said Jorgen Elmeskov, deputy director of the Paris-based OECD's policy studies branch. "But what we've said consistently is you need to pursue the right policies across a broad front – structural as well as macroeconomic. It's not a question of one or both."

But now the euro has levelled to macroeconomic playing field, the focus is inevitably on the structural nuts and bolts of the German economy. So it was that the country's biggest insurer, Allianz, threatened last month to move businesses out of Germany if Bonn pushes through planned tax changes.

A senior European official said Germany is likely to postpone deep-seated change until after the next elections, due in 2002. But ultimately, he said, there will be little choice.

"Life will become very uncomfortable for German politicians," he predicted. "They need time, time, time. But time is running out."

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هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأعلى

European stocks yo-yo higher

SHARES

EUROPE

European shares ended a touch higher after yo-yoing between gains and losses, but then drawing modest comfort from Wall Street, while the euro enjoyed a brief respite in its decline against the dollar.

The mood in the world's leading share markets was constrained, however, by growing concerns that the trend of falling interest rates which has proved so positive in recent months may be drawing to a close, traders said.

Even before Wall Street opened, Europe's largest stock market, London, moved just into positive territory after a morning spent more down than up.

The FTSE 100 ended with a 0.4 point gains, although Merrill Lynch cut its year-end forecast for the index to 6,100 from 6,300, arguing that rising bond yields made stock valuations look stretched.

Business services group Rentokil Initial fell 10.6 percent after 1998 pre-tax profits and earnings growth came in below target, which brought a downgrade to "reduce" from HSBC.

But General Electric Co. climbed 3.9% amid continued positive reaction to Monday's $2.1 billion acquisition of US telecoms equipment firm Reltec Corp.

Germany's Xetra DAX regained positive ground and managed to close 18.77 points, or 0.4%, higher after sliding at one stage as far as 75 points down.

The market was edged higher on the back of Wall Street's early gains and the strength of key support at 4,700 points.

Bayer gained 4.95%, up from recent lows as investors chose to swap holdings out of Hoechst into Bayer. Hoechst shed 4.92% after last month's steep rise and following a report its heart drug had not performed as hoped in preliminary trials.

Paris shares retreated more than one percent before finding support at 4000 points and recovering to end up 0.4%.

"Even a US rate rise wouldn't be such bad news anymore – it's almost in prices here," one trader said. "But it doesn't look like there's going to be a European cut and the market is going to stay range-bound between 4,000 and 4,250 until we get some kind of event."

Alcatel jumped 5.3% after saying it would buy US network switchmaker Xylan for $37 per share or about $2.0 billion.

Renault plunged 9.08% in hefty volume of 1.9 million euros on worries about European car market growth in 99 despite strong 98 profit. Traders noted big US sell orders.

ASIA

Japanese stocks posted their biggest one-day losses in two months, as banks and life insurers sold shares and futures contracts to improve their accounts for the fiscal year-end at the end of the month.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average fell 300.69, or 2.1%, to 13,921.06, its largest one-day decline since January 4.

Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd., Sanwa Bank Ltd., Nippon Steel Corp., and Toyota Motor Corp. led declines. Banks and older industrial companies are selling shares they own in each other, known as cross-shareholdings, either to boost their profits by realizing gains or to raise cash to improve their balance sheets.

"You're probably seeing a lot of cross shareholder unwinding going on," said Alex Muromcew, international portfolio manager at Nicholas Applegate Capital management.

In other markets, Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index fell 1.1% as Chinese investment companies declined on concern about their debt loads. Australia's All Ordinaries fell 0.6% as interest rates rose, making bond yields increasingly attractive compared with company dividends. South Korea's Kospi Index rose 2.7%, led by Korea Electric Power Corp. and other companies with large debts as interest rates fell.

Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank, Japan's third-largest lender, fell 4.8% to 677 yen. Sanwa Bank, Japan's fifth-largest bank, fell 2.3% to 1143.

Nippon Steel, Japan's largest steelmaker, fell 3.2% to 210. Toyota Motor, the world's third-largest automaker, lost 1% to 3000.

A decline in index futures also dragged down the benchmark index as banks and insurers sought to hedge against potential losses on their equity holdings before the year-end, when they have to show they are meeting standards of risk management.

"There's still a tremendous number of investors who need to hedge their portfolios by selling futures," said Ritsu Matsushita, director at Invesco Asset Management (Japan) Ltd. "We have no good news to look forward to."

Fujitsu Ltd., Japan's largest computer maker, fell 1.4% to 1,425 after slashing group net profit 56% to 20 billion yen for the year ending March because of shrinking orders from Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp.

WALL STREET

A last-ditch bid to pull the Dow industrials higher failed, and the blue-chip index ended lower along with other stock indexes, as technology stocks lost ground.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 27.17 at 9,297.61. The Dow got as high as 9,420.95, up 96 points, then swung as low as 9,295.71, down 29 points. It popped briefly into positive territory in the final hour before descending into the close.

The Dow was lower even as component Hewlett-Packard was up 2 3/4 at 68 5/8. The computer maker announced that it would divide itself into two separate publicly held companies.

But other Dow components, such as financial and manufacturing stocks, fell. Citigroup was down 2 5/8 at 58 15/16, and Caterpillar was down 1 7/8 at 47 5/16.

Shares of computer stocks fell after Micron Electronics Inc. said earnings for the second quarter will be below those of the first quarter because of slower personal computer sales.

Predictions of lower personal-computer sales have rattled technology stocks for several sessions.



Maof no trading

Dow Jones 9297.61 ▼ 0.29%

FTSE 6061.30 ▲ 0.1%

Nikkei 13921.06 ▼ 2.1%

Compaq Computer was down 1 19/32 at 31 15/16 in leading volume on the New York Stock Exchange.

Stocks fell even as the 30-year Treasury bond was up 23/32 point, with its yield, which falls when prices rise, trading at 5.61 percent, down from 5.67 percent late Monday. Bonds were shoring up a big loss Monday spurred by reports showing that the economy is growing, even as the financial markets got more confirmation of a strong economy this morning.

The Standard and Poor's 500 declined 10.64 to 1,225.52. The Nasdaq composite index lost 36.15 to 2,250.03.

CURRENCIES

The dollar posted its biggest gain against the yen in more than a week and rose against the euro on mounting evidence US growth is surging, outperforming the economies of Europe and Japan.

"The economy is as strong as we've seen it in recent years and it can continue," said Divyang Shah, a global strategist at market research firm I.D.E.A. "The dollar can maintain its strength." He sees the euro falling to $1.0850.

The dollar rose for a second day, to 120.41 yen from 119.81 in London Monday. Earlier it rose as high as 120.66, its biggest one-day gain since February 19. The euro fell to $1.0876 from $1.0903. It earlier fell to $1.0865, its weakest level since it began trading January 4.

The US currency rose after Japan said its unemployment rate was at a record high of 4.4% in January for the third consecutive month, higher than the 4.3% US jobless rate and indicating there's no end in sight for Japan's worst recession in half a century.

"Japan's job situation didn't improve and that made the dollar more attractive," said Norimitsu Takada, a senior trader at National Westminster Bank Plc. "Compared with strong economic reports released in the US, Japan's economy remains weak."

On Monday, the National Association of Purchasing Management index, which measures US manufacturing orders, production and other activities, increased to 52.4 from 49.5 in January, while personal income and spending rose more than expected.

The US economy "is looking fairly powerful," said John Parker, of Pavilion Asset Management. "It looks like the dollar is going to run higher."

The US economy grew at the fastest pace in more than two years during the fourth quarter of 1998, expanding at a 6.1% annual rate. By comparison, the Japanese government forecasts the economy will shrink 2.2% in the year ending March 31 and expand just 0.5% the following year.

"US data is remarkable in its strength," said Francis Breedon, a currency economist at Lehman Brothers International in London. "If we get more upside surprises from the US, you'll see more dollar strength." He sees the euro falling to $1.0800.

The dollar's ascent, though, may slow because of concern that a barrage of reports from factory orders to new home sales may prompt the Federal Reserve to raise its 4.75% target federal funds rate, which could cause investors to sell stocks and bonds and sell the dollar proceeds of those sales.

COMMODITIES

METALS

Gold held in range during European business, continuing its dogged hold of a mid-$280s band while silver drifted lower, dealers said.

London gold fixed at $286.40 a troy ounce, just down on Monday afternoon's $286.70 as spot prices drifted at $286.40/$286.80, 15 cents up on Monday's New York close.

Spot silver dropped to $5.47/$5.50, seven cents down on Monday's New York close, despite continued tightness in the forwards market.

"Silver is dangerously close to breaking lower through $5.50. The charts look mildly bearish, but the main thing is that it keeps on testing higher and failing, and has done so three times now," said one London dealer.

Implied lease rates for one-month silver were last above 11%, having tightened slightly during the morning.

Gold's range-bound trade gave dealers little scope for making money in the spot market said one German dealer.

"Monday was impossible. The price movement was barely outside the spread between buying and selling. The market is just dead," he added.

Renewed strength in the dollar versus the yen was seen as having a mixed effect given the Australian dollar's reasonable performance against the US unit, he added.

"There will be a big break through either $285.00 or $288.00," said one London dealer who added that he slightly favored the upside with sell stops in the $290.00/$292.00 area.

Platinum was lower at $374.50/$376.50, $3.00 down on New York, a drop matched by palladium at $349.00/$354.00.

"The big figure in platinum is $370.00. We feel that there are big stops under this level, so if it breaks it could easily run another 10 bucks lower," said one dealer.

Switzerland's Federal Customs Office gave a breakdown of platinum and palladium trade which showed raw or powder platinum imports at 19,642 kilos (631,509 troy ounces) last December, nearly a third of the year's total, with exports at 4,846 kilos.

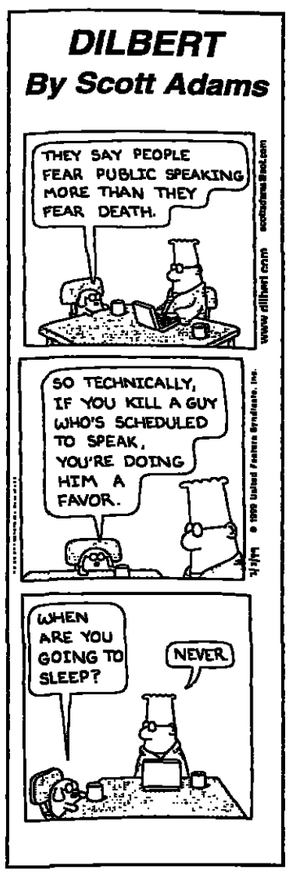
It said December's raw or powder palladium imports amounted to 31,798 kilos, more than 40% of the year's total, versus 6,630 kilos of exports.

ENERGY

Brent crude oil for April delivery was little changed as traders await a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which could cut output to bolster prices that are close to a 12-year low. Crude oil traded 3 cents lower at $10.70 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange in London.

Venezuelan Oil Minister Ali Rodriguez Monday said his country, OPEC's No. 3 oil producer, will meet its commitment to cut oil output soon, and said the group is considering making further production cuts. Gasoil, a group of products that includes heating oil, for March delivery, fell $1.25 to $96.25 a metric ton.

(News agencies)



Dropping computer share prices may offer investor opportunity

MARKETWATCH
By MICK OLIVARI

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) – The February decline in computer stocks that sent Dell Computer Corp. down 25 percent may be the best buying opportunity investors have had for some time, according to some of Wall Street's top analysts and money managers.

A report of unexpectedly weak revenue growth from Dell two weeks ago triggered concern that the personal computer industry's remarkable run of growth may be falling off. Compaq Computer Corp. hastened the drop on Friday, saying sales slowed in January.

The growth concerns spread to market stars such as Intel, the No. 1 computer-chipmaker, because Compaq is one of its biggest customers. The Morgan Stanley Hi-Tech Index, which includes companies from Cisco Systems Inc. to Microsoft Corp., is down almost 10% from its closing high of 1034.26 on January 29.

Fund managers are optimistic about the prospects of computer-related shares. "I don't think you can abandon these stocks," said Terry McLaughlin, a portfolio manager at Ashland Management Inc. in New York.

Technology companies are growing faster than most others, and after a couple quarters of growth, even the most expensive stocks can look like reasonable purchases, he said. "Before you know it, people will be buying again."

Compaq has lost a third of its value since its record close of 49 1/4 on January 26. It fell 1 27/32 to 33 17/32 Monday, its lowest price in almost four months. Intel has dropped 17% since a high of 140 15/16 on January 29. It fell 2 7/8 to 117 1/16 Monday, its lowest level since mid-December.

"I'd be a buyer on this dip," said Paul Meeks, manager of the Merrill Lynch Global Technology Fund. "Intel is a good buy here."

Computer-related issues across the board plunged in the last month, including semiconductor equipment makers such as Applied Materials Inc., down 17% from its February 19 high. Applied Materials rose 1 7/16 to 57 1/16 Monday.

"We believe the sell-off in semiconductor capital equipment stocks has been overdone, and at current levels, a short-term opportunity exists to purchase quality equipment stocks at attractive prices," said Jay Deahna, an analyst with Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co., in a research report.

Deahna recommends companies such as Applied Materials, ASM Lithography Holding NV, KLA-Tencor Corp., and Novellus Systems Inc.

"As long as PC unit growth is 13% of higher, we expect an expansionary trend in semiconductor industry growth," said Deahna.

Merrill Lynch analyst Mark Fitzgerald agreed.

"The sell-off is a good buying opportunity and we recommend investors use the price weakness to build positions," he said in a report to clients.

His picks include storage device and display maker Veeco Instruments Inc. and Lam Research Corp.

Some analysts and investors said Intel's early discussion and preview of its Pentium III chips may have caused some PC makers and end users to put off purchases until late last week, when the products officially went on sale. Intel had been previewing the processors and discussing the enhanced multimedia effects the chips offer.

"Once you get through this modest product transition to PIII, there will be stronger growth," said portfolio manager Graham Tanaka of Tanaka Capital, which owns Intel and Dell. "I think it's a buying opportunity."

Not everybody is convinced that troubles in the computer industry are past.

Richard Gardner, an analyst with Salomon Smith Barney, lowered his first-quarter earnings estimate for Compaq to 30 cents a share from 34 cents because the No. 1 maker of personal computers was exposed to $250 million in assets in Brazil when the real was devalued in January.

The 40% drop in the real will increase expenses by $100 million, Gardner said.

Even so, money flow analysis supports expectations that computer-related shares will move higher in coming weeks.

Institutional investors poured money into Compaq in recent days even as the shares fell. The same is true for Hewlett-Packard Co., which has slumped 20% since its record close of 81 15/16 on February 1.

Positive money flow shows investors bought more shares when the stocks rose than they sold when the shares declined, and may indicate the stock has room to rise in coming days. Money flowed into the shares Monday too, even as Compaq slid 2 3/16 to 33 3/16 and Hewlett-Packard fell 1/2 to 65 15/16.

Compaq closed with a 14-day average relative strength index reading of 28.31%. The RSI, which measures the speed of price moves, is considered "overbought" above 70% and "oversold" when the indicator falls below 30%.

Intel's RSI reading was 38.21%. While that's above the oversold benchmark used by analysts, it is the lowest since August 31.

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Magic Software Enterprises	5.75	-0
Netmanage	2.59375	-0.03125
New Dimension Software	50.625	-1.625
Nexus Telecomm Sys Ltd	2.4375	-0.0625
Nice Systems	30.75	+0.5625
Neuro-Medical Systems	0.25	-0.0625
Noga Electro Mechanical	0.875	0
Nur Tecnology	2.75	-0.25
Opti Systems Solutions	7.5	-0.1875
Optomedics Medical Tech	0.8125	-0
Optomedics Medical Warrant	0.25	+0
Orbit/FR Inc	2.0625	-0.0625
Orbotech	44.4375	-0.6875
Orckit	14.5625	-0
Oshap Technologies	9.875	-0.375
Paradigm Geophys	4.4375	0
Pharmos	1.25	+0
Point of Sale	7.3125	+0.0625
Rada Electronics Ind	0.96875	+0.03125
Radcom Ltd	2.5625	+0
RIT Technologies	1.8125	-0.125
RSL Communications	28.8125	+0.6875
Scitex Corporations	9	+0.3125
Silicom	1.6875	+0
Summit Design	3.6875	+0.03125
Sapiens International	10.6875	-0.125
Scanvec	2.4375	0
Tadiran Telecomm	21	+0.5
Taro Pharmaceuticals Ind	5.375	-0.125
Tat Technologies	1.5625	0
Technomatix Technologies	13.0625	+0
Teva	40.5	+0.375
Top Image Systems	4.1875	-0.4375
Top Image Systyms Warrant	0.5	0
Tower Semiconductor	6.9375	-0.0625
TTI Team Telecom Intl Ltd.	7.5	+0.0625
TTR Inc	-	-
TVG Technologies	0.875	+0.0625
TVG Tech A	0.125	0
TVG Tech B	0.1875	+0
TVG Tech C	0.15625	+0
Vocaltec	12.25	+1
Wiz Tec Solutions	17.25	+0.3125
Zoran Corporation	17.5625	+0

NYSE

	LAST	CHANGE*
Amdocs	25.8125	+0.9375
Blue Square	12.25	+0.25
D.S.P. Communications	14.75	-0.0625
Elscint	12.4375	-0.25
First Israel Fund	11.625	+0
PEC Israel Economic Corp	29.0625	-0.375
Koor	19.25	+0.25
Simula Inc.	6.0625	+0.1875
Super-Sol Ltd	12.875	+0.25
Tadiran	-	-
Telron Ltd	7.6875	-0.1875

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK(DATE 2-MAR-99)

LONDON

	LAST	CHANGE*
Batm Advanced	232.5	-11.5
DmatekLtd	29.25	-0.25
Pilat	13.5	+0
S.E.A. Multimedia	-	-

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK(DATE 2-MAR-99)

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

NEW YORK

	LAST	CHANGE*
Aza	51	+0.0625
AMP Inc	53.5	+0.6875
AMR Corp	57.875	+1.75
ASA	18.1875	+0.375
Abbott Labs	45.875	-0.0625
Advanced Micro	18.5	+0.1875
Aetna Life	76.8125	+2.5625
Affiliated Publ	18	+0.25
Aflac	49.1875	+3.0625
Air Prods	30.625	-1
Alberto-Culv B	23.0625	-0.375
Albertson's	55.5625	-0.0625
Alcan Aluminum	23.625	-0.75
Allied Signal	41.625	-0.3125
Alcoa	39.625	-1.75
Amazon	121.313	-11.6875
Amerada Hess	44.25	-0.125
Amer Brands	21.125	-0.0625
Amer El Power	41.625	+0.125
Amer Express	109.688	-1.8125
Amer Genl Corp	74.3125	+0.3125
Amer Greeting	23.875	+0.3125
Amer Home Pr	59.4375	+0.5
Amer Intl	113.75	+0.875
Amer Natl Ins	73	-0.0625
America On Line	86.625	-2.9375
Amer Power Conv	34.9375	-0.3125
Amer Stores	33	+0.125
Amer T & T	81.875	+0.625
Amer West Hldg	18	+0
Ameritech	61.3125	-2.1875
Ametek Inc	17.1875	+0.125
Amgen	64	-0.25
Amoco	-	-
Analog Devices	25.4375	-0.3125
Andrew Corp	15.375	-0.1875
Anheuser-Busch	77.8125	+1.1875
Aon Corp	59.6875	+0.6875
Apple Computer	34.625	+0.875
Applied Magnetics	3.875	+0
Applied Materials	57.3125	+0.25
Archer Daniels	14.9375	-0.5
Armco	4.75	-0.25
Armstrong World	49.3125	-0.375
Asarco	14	-0.375
Ascend	75.375	-1.1875
Ashland Coal	10.5	-0.1875
Ashland Oil	42.1875	-0.8125
Atlantic Energy	21.0625	+0.1875
Atlantic Richfld	53.375	-0.5
Auto Data Pro	39.5625	+0.0625
Autodesk	40.75	-0.125
Avery Dennison	52.8125	-0.4375
Avnet Inc	40.5625	-1.375
Avon Products	45.5625	+2.5625
Balmco Corp	5.5625	-0.25
Baker Hughes	18.1875	+0.25
Ball Corp	40.125	-1.0625
Baltimore Gas	25.8125	+0.0625
Banc One Corp	53.75	-0.875
Bandag	32.0625	-0.875
BankAmerica	67.75	+0.5625
Bank of Boston	40.125	-0.6875
Bank of New Yk	36.9375	+0.4375
Bankers Trst NY	86.0625	-0.875
Barnes & Noble	28.625	+0.25
Battle Mount Gd	3.375	+0
Bausch & Lomb	60.125	+0.1875
Baxter Intl	66.6875	-1.3125
Becton Dickinson	35	+1.4375
Bed Bath & Bynd	30.625	+0.25
Bell Atlantic	54.5	-1.3125
Bell Industries	11.1875	+0
BellSouth	45.625	-0.25
HA Belo Corp	17.875	-0.375
Beneficial Corp	18.5	-1.25
Bethlehem Steel	8.3125	-0.25
Beverly Enters	5.375	+0.0625
Biomet	38.5	-1.5
Black & Decker	50.0625	+1.5625
Boeing	34.5625	-0.9375
Boise Cascade	30.5625	+0
Books a Million	10.8125	-0.3125
Borden Inc	22.75	-0.125
Bowater Inc	40.875	-0.375
Briggs & Strtn	48.4375	+0
Brstl Myrs Sqb	64.8125	+0.5
Brit Airws ADR	71.625	-0.4375
Brit Steel ADR	20.375	+0.5
Brit Telecom	172.5	-0.9375
Brown Group	14.875	-0.625
Brown & Sharpe	7.375	+0
Browning Ferris	31.25	-0.0625
Brunswick	20.6875	-0.25
Burlington Nthn	34.375	+1.9375
Burlington Res	33.25	+0.375
CBS Inc	36.6875	-0.375
CMS Energy Corp	41.9375	+0.75
CSX Corporation	38.4375	-0.875
Cabot Corp	24.9375	+0.0625
Campbell Soup	38.875	-2
Canadian Pac	17.25	-0.5625
Capital Cts ABC	54.0625	+1.25
Capstead	4.8125	-0.125
Caremark Corp	22.9375	+0.1875
Carnival Corp	43.875	-0.375
Carolina Pwr Lt	40.375	+0.3125
Carpenter Tech	25.1875	-1.0625
Caterpillar	47.4375	-1.75
Centex Corp	36.9375	+0.3125
Central & SW	24.6875	+0.1875
Ceridian	35.625	+0.0625
Champion Intl	36.875	-0.125
Chrmg Shoppes	3.8125	-0.09375
Chase Manhattan	80.3125	-0.4375
Chevron Corp	75.6875	-0.375
Citigroup Inc	59	-2.25
Chiquita Brands	8.75	+0.1875
Cholestec	3.1875	+0.0625
Chubb Corp	60.25	-0.0625
Cisco	95.6875	-3.75
Clevnd Cliffs	38.3125	-0.875
Clorox	123	+5.5
Coastal Corp	31.75	-0.5625
Coca Cola	62.125	-1.5625
Coca Cola Ent	31.5	-0.0625
Colgate Palmolv	85.9375	+1.4375
Comcast Corp A	68.625	-1.25
Compaq	31.9375	-1.59375
Compute Ass Int	40.375	-1.5625
Computer Sci	65.1875	-0.5
Conagra	29.4375	-0.8125
Cons Edison	46.875	+0.1875
Cons Freightwys	42.875	+0.9375
Cons Nat Gas	54.0625	-0.1875
Cooper Inds.	43.25	-0.8125
Coors (Adolph)	59.75	-0.375
Corning Inc	55.8125	-0.6875
Crane	26.125	-0.625
Crompton Knowles	18	-0.1875
Crown Cork Seal	27.9375	+0.0625
Cummins Engine	40.9375	-0.8125
Curtiss-Wright	37.3125	-0.375
Cypress Semicon	9.0625	-0.3125
Cypress Mineral	10.625	-0.1875
Cytec Indust	24.8125	-0.5
DamlerChrys	90.9375	-0.125
DOE	38.875	+1
Dallas Semi	35.4375	+0.375
Dana Corp	38.375	+0.125
Data General	13.8125	-0.8125
Dayton Hudson	61.875	-2.25
De Beers	16.875	-0.125
Deere	33.25	-0.3125
Dell Computers	78.0625	-2.5
Delta Air Lines	65.625	+2.6875
Deluxe Corp	34.125	-0.4375
Detroit Edison	40.3125	+0.75
Dial Corp Del	23.6875	+0.4375
Diebold Inc	23.5625	+0.0625
Dillard Dep St	24.75	-0.1875
Disney (Walt)	34.0625	-0.75
Dominion Res	38.9375	+0.1875
Donldsn Lufkn	54.625	-1.875
Donelley (RR)	33.8125	-0.375
Dover Corp	34.1875	+0.0625
Dow Chemicals	98.6875	-0.25
Dow Jones	46.6875	-0.5
Duke Power	57.25	+0.3125
Dun & Bradst	36	+0.4375
Du Pont	51.3125	-1.125
E G & G Corp	26.75	+0.25
Eastern Ents	38.6875	+0.125
Eastman Kodak	65.0625	-0.75
Eaton Corp	68.25	-0.0625
Egghead Com	15.6875	-0.5
Emerson Elec	57.25	+0.25
Engelhard Corp	18.3125	+0.5
Enron Corp	62.625	-0.875
Entergy Corp	26.1875	+0.125
Enzo Biochem	11.5	+0.375
Equifax Inc	37.1875	-0.5625
Ericsson	25.6875	-0.125
Ethyl Corp	4.6875	-0.0625
Exide Corp	12.9375	-1.3125
Exxon	64.8125	-0.375
FMC Corp	51.5	-0.375
FPL Group	52.4375	+0.9375
Fedders Corp	5.5	+0.0625
Federal Express	92.6875	-1.125
Federal Mogul	49.375	+0.25
Fed Nat Mtge	68.375	-1.375
First Union	52.875	-0.6875
Fruit of the Loom	13	+0.125
Fst Union Rlty	4.0625	-0.0625
Fleet Finl Grp	43.875	+1.0625
Fleetwd Enterp	30.9375	-0.5
Fleming Cos Ok	7.4375	-0.0625
Fonda Prog	40.6875	+0.75
Fluor Corp	34	-0.875
Food Lion Inc	9.90625	+0.03125
Ford Motor	57.125	-1.25
Fortune Brands	30.125	+0.1875
Foster Wheeler	12.0625	-0.1875
Furniture Brands	21.875	+0.25
Gateway 2000	68.4375	-2.5625
GATX Corp	35.5625	+0.5625
GTE Corp	60.4375	-2.5625
Gannett	61.8125	-2.75
Gap Inc Del	54.6875	-0.0625
Gencorp	16.1875	-0.0625
Gen Am Invest	31	+0.25
Gen Dynamics	58.9375	+0.0625
Gen Electric	99.3125	-1.625
Gen Mills	80.0625	-1.0625
Gen Motors	82.6875	-0.4375
Gen Motors H	46.75	-0.4375
Gen Public Util	40.375	+0.125
Gen Remsumce	-	-
Gen DataComm	2.5625	+0.0625
Genuine Parts	29.875	+0
Georgia Pac	70.5	-1.75
Germany Fund	13	-0.0625
Gillette	57.125	+2.875
Glaxo ADR	62.25	-0.5
Golden W Fin	93.3125	+0.3125
Goodrich (BF)	34.6875	+0.125
Goodyear Tire	48	-0.25
Grace (W&R)	12.625	-0.5625
Grainger (WW)	44.3125	-0.4375
Grt Atl Pac Tea	31.25	+0
Grt Central Mine	2.6875	+0
Gull Canada Rec	2.4375	-0.0625
Halliburton	28.5	+0.0625
Hanna (MA)	11.3125	+0.1875
Harcourt	45.0625	-1.375
Harley Davidson	56.875	+0.0625
Harnischfeger	6.8125	-0.375
Harrah's Ent	15.5625	-0.375
Harris Corp	29.875	-0.8125
Harsco Corp	27.5	+0.1875
Hartmarx	4.375	+0
Hasbro	37.6875	+0.6875
HBO & Co	-	-
Health Care Ppt	29.9375	+0.3125
Hecla Mining	3.625	-0.0625
Heinz (HJ)	54.5625	+0.5625
Helix Technol	18.4375	-0.625
Hmrch & Payne	16.4375	+0
Hercules	27.6875	-0.25
Hershey Foods	61	-0.875
Hewlett Packard	68.625	+2.75
Hilton Hotels	15.625	-0.125
Hirsch Int	3	+0.0625
Hollinger	12.6875	-0.4375
Home Depot	58.9375	-0.6875
Homestake	9.3125	+0.0625
Honeywell	69.0625	-1.8125
Hormel (Geo)	37	-0.25
Household Intl	40.9375	+0.25
Houston Inds	-	-
Humana	18.5625	+0.375
IBM	167.75	-0.625
Ikinova Corp	23.5	-0.1875
Illinois Tool	67.4375	+0.5
INCO	11.5625	-0.875
Ind Comm Bank	14.9375	-0.0625
Ingersoll Rand	49.125	-0.25
Inland Steel	-	-
Intel Corp	109.813	-7.25
Intergraph	5.6875	+0.03125
Interlake	-	-
Intl Flav & Fr	40.25	-0.875
Intl Multifoods	22.5625	+0.8125
Intl Paper	40.375	-0.5625
Interpublic	74.3125	-0.8125
Jefferson Plt	71	+1.1875
Johnson & J	85.0625	-0.375
K Mart	17.6875	+0.25
K Tel Int	9.4375	-0.4375
Kaiser Alum	4.9375	+0.0625
Kellogg	36.8125	-0.9375
KLA Instruments	51.25	-2.5625
Kennametal	21.0625	+0.5625
Kerr-McGee	29.1875	+0.375
KeyCorp	31.4375	-0.625
Kimberly-Clark	47.6875	+0.1875
King World Prod	26.3125	-0.3125
Knight Ridder	50	-0.125
Kroger	61.625	-1.625
LSI Logic	26.25	+0.9375
Lehman Brother	55	-0.8125
Legget & Platt	21.25	+0.5
Leucadia Natl	29.875	+0.125
Lilly (Eli)	93	-0.8125
Limited Inc	36.375	+0.375
Linear Technol	42.5	-2.25
Lincoln Nat	94.875	+1.5
Litton	54.9375	+0.125
Liz Claiborne	32.5	-0.1875
Lockheed Corp	37.125	+0.5625
Loews Corp	77.5	-0.5
Lone Star	32.75	+0
Longs Drug Strs	34.75	-0.75
Loral Corp	18	-0.3125
Louisiana Pacf	18.375	+0
Lowe's Co Inc	59.625	+0.3125
Lucent Tech	99.875	-3
Lubrizol	18.8125	-0.125
Madge	3.5	+0
Mallinckrodt	30.25	+0.0625
Mapco Inc	13.375	-0.125
Marriott	36.25	-0.3125
Mrsh & McLn	73.5	+1.8125
Masco Corp	27.1875	+0.5
Massmutual Corp	24.75	-0.5
Mattel Inc	25.5	-0.4375
May Dept St	60.0625	-0.625
Maytag Corp	54.5	-0.375
McDermott	20.125	+0.375
McDonalds	69.5	+2.9375
McGraw Hill	106.625	+1
McKesson Corp	66.0625	+0.0625
Mead Corp	28.6875	-0.0625
Medtronic	66.8125	-1.1875
Mellon Bk	67.5	-1.125
Mentor Graphics	13.875	+0
Merck Inc	79.4375	-0.3125
Meredith Corp	31.8125	-1.375
Merrill Lynch	78.25	+1.8125
Micron Technol	54.25	-3.25
Microsoft Corp	148.563	-3.1875
Millipore	27.6875	+0.0625
Mine Safety App	63	-3
Minnesota Mine	74.375	+0.8125
Mitchell Energy	12.375	+0.0625
Mobil Corp	80.4375	-0.5625
Molex Inc	24.75	+1.875
Monarch Macht	7.8125	+0.125
Monsanto	44.375	-0.9375
Morgan (JP)	112.063	+0.4375
Morton Intl	35.8125	-0.125
Motorola Inc	67.5625	-0.375
Murphy Oil	33.9375	-0.1875
Nacco Inds	88.375	-1.0625
Nalco Chemical	27.5625	-0.125
Nashua Corp	12	-0.125
Natl City Corp	66.6875	-1
Natl Semi	10.375	+0.1875
Natl Serv Ind	31.5	-0.375
NatWest Bank	123.5	-1.5
Navistar Int	42.375	-1.375
Netscape	75.5	-3.4375
New England El	48.625	-0.25
News Corp	26.75	-0.0625
NY Times	31.125	-0.625
Newmont Mining	17.625	+0.3125
Niag Mohawk	14.6875	+0.125
Nicor Inc	37.125	-1.375
Nike Inc	52.125	-0.9375
NL Industries	10	+0.1875
Noble Affl	22.375	-0.1875
Nokia	135	+0.1875
Nordstrom	40.3125	-1.75
Norfolk Southrn	27.6875	-0.3125
Northeast Util	15	+0.125
Northern Telecom	57.375	-1.1875
Novell	19.125	-0.375
Nthn State Pwr	26.0625	+0.375
Northrop	61.0625	-0.6875
NSI	0.25	-0.0625
Occidental Pet	14.75	-0.125
Ogden Corp	24.8125	-0.3125
OEA	10.4375	-0.3125
Ohio Casualty	40.625	+0.125
Olin Corp	11.9375	-0.375
Omnicom Group	66	-0.5
Oneok Inc	26.625	-0.8125
Oracle Systems	35.3125	-1.3125
Oryx Energy Co	10.375	0
Oshkosh B'gosh	19.5625	+0.3125
Overseas Ship	12.625	-0.625
Owens Corning	30.9375	-0.8125
PNC Financal	52	-0.125
PPG Industries	51.5	-0.0625
Paccar Inc	42.375	-0.875
Pac Gas & Elect	31.4375	+0
Pall Corp	21.3125	+0
Parker Drilling	2.375	-0.125
Parker Hannifin	36.5625	-0.125
Payless Shoe	55.375	+0.1875
Penney(JC)	35.8125	-0.8125
Pennsyl Pwr Lt	25.875	+0.0625
Pennzoil	12.625	+0.1875
People's Energy	32.9375	-1.0625
Pepsico	36.875	-1.125
Perkin Elmer	93	-0.9375
Pfizer	133	-0.125
Pharmacia & Upj	53.5625	+0.125
Phelps Dodge	46.875	-0.9375
Philadel Elec	33.5625	+0.3125
Philip Morris	39.0625	+0.1875
Phillips Elec	68.4375	-0.4375
Phillips Pet	38.4375	-0.4375
Phycor Inc	5.125	-0.34375
Pioneer Hi Bred	21.5625	-0.9375
Pitney Bowes	64.5	-0.125
Policy Mgt Sys	39.625	+0.25
Polycom	18.1875	-1.4375
Potash Corp	55.625	-1.1875
Potomac El Pwr	24.875	+0.5625
Procter & Gamble	90.1875	+1.6875
Promus Hotel Cor	36.5	+0.5
Pub Svc Enterpr	37.9375	+0.25
Pug Snd Pwr	24.6875	+0.1875
Quaker Oats	53.6875	-0.84375
Qualcom	73.75	+1.375
Quanex Corp	17.75	-0.1875
RJR Nabisco	27.875	+0.5
Ralston Purina	27	+0.125
Rank Orgnan ADR	8.125	+0.5
Raychem Corp	21.9375	-0.375
Raytheon A	54.4375	+0.9375
Raytheon B	54.8125	+0.8125
Reebok Intl	16.125	+0.0625
Republic NY	44.25	-1.4375
Reynolds Reyn A	18.625	-0.125
Reynolds Metals	41.875	-1
Rite Aid Corp	40	+0.375
Rockwell Intl	44.6875	-0.6875
Rohm & Haas	31.1875	+0.5
Rouse	23.0625	+0.25
Rowan	8.8125	+0.25
Royal Dutch	42	-0.6875
Rubbermaid	33.875	+0.875
Ruddick	19.5625	+0.75
Russell Corp	19.125	-0.3125
Ryder System	27.375	+0.25
SPS Technology	41.8125	+0.125
Safeco Corp	41.0938	+0.375
Safety-Kleen	13	-1.0625
St Paul's Cos	32.875	-0.1875
Sara Lee Corp	26.75	+0.125
Scherling Plough	54.3125	-0.6875
Schlumberger	49.5	+0.8125
Scientif Atlanta	31.8125	+0.1875
Scripps	41.5	-0.4375
Seagate Tech	26.875	-1.0625
Seagram	45.375	-1
Sears Roebuck	40.75	-0.375
Sempra Energy	21.0625	-0.0625
Sensormatic Elec	10.9375	-0.25
Sequent Computer	9.1875	-0.25
Service Corp I	15	+0.1875
Service Master	18.75	+0.0625
Shell Trans.	32.125	-0.5
Sherwin Willms	24.25	+0.9375
Shoney's Inc	2.375	+0.1875
Sigma Aldrich	28.1875	+0.4375
Silicon Graphics	15.5625	+0
Skyline Corp	29.25	+0
Smith Intl	25.0625	+0.6875
SmKline Bchm A	69	-0.25
Snap-On-Tools	29.3125	+0.5625
Sonat	25	+0.625
Sonocco Prods	25.375	+0.9375
Sony Corp ADR	73.6875	-0.25
Southdown	47.9375	+0.8125
Southern Co	24.6875	+0
Southw Airlines	31.375	+1.25
SBC Sthwstn Bell	49.9375	-2
Spring Inds	32	+0.0625
Sprint Corp	66	+0
Standard Prods	15.1875	+0.0625
Stanley Works	24.4375	+0
Storage Technol	34.1875	-0.1875
Sun America	1.125	+0.0625
Sunbeam Corp	5.9375	+0.125
Sun Company	30.8125	-0.3125
Sundstrand	57.625	-0.0625
Sun Microsystms	98.875	+1.625
Sunshine Mining	0.5625	-0.0625
Suntrust	66.6875	-1.6875
Supervalu	23.125	-0.125
Symantec	17.75	-0.4375
Sysco Corp	27.6875	-0.375
TJX Cos Inc	30.875	+0.6875
TRW Inc	48.125	-0.0625
Tab Products	5.0625	+0
Tandy Corp	57	-0.25
Telecom Corp	62.125	+0.625
Telefonos de Mex	55.3125	-1.5625
Telef De Espana	138	+0.4375
Temple Inland	59.75	+0.9375
Tenneco	30.375	+0.875
Tenet Health	19.375	-0.5
Teradyne	49.4375	+0.5625
Tesoro Pet	7.9375	-0.0625
Texaco	45.1875	-1.25
Texas Instrmts	86.5	-5.75
Texas Utilities	42.25	-0.0625
Textron	75.9375	-0.125
Thomas & Betts	40.5	-0.25
ThreeCom	27	-3.6875
Time Warner	62.5625	-1.1875
Times-Mirror	56.0625	-0.75
Timken	18.125	-0.5
Torchmark	33.875	+0.6875
Tosco Corp	19.4375	-1.0625
Toys R Us	15.75	+1.125
Transamerica	72.625	-0.3125
Transco Energy	58.4375	+0.4375
Tribune	65.8125	-0.875
Triton Energy	5.25	-0.125
TWA	6.125	+0.125
Tyco Intl Ltd	75.3125	+2.125
Tyler	5.75	+0.125
UAL Corp	65.3125	+3.3125
USG Corp	49.625	-0.5625
UST Inc	28.0625	-0.5
USX Marathon	20	-0.1875
USX-US Steel	25.625	+0.25
Ultramar Diam	19.5625	-0.1875
Unicom Corp	35.125	+0.0625
Unilever PLC	39.1875	+0.125
Unilever NV	72.0625	+0.0625
Union Camp	64.1875	-0.25
Union Carbide	44.8125	+9.125
Union Pacific	46.75	+0.5625
Unisys Corp	30.1875	+0.1875
USAIR Group	51.25	+2.3125
US Home	34.75	+0.125
US Trust	74.5	-0.25
US West	54.625	-1.25
United Tech	124.625	+0
Unocal Corp	28.5625	-0.125
VF Corp	48.25	+0.25
VMRX Pharmaceutic	1.15625	+0
Valero Energy	16.75	-0.75
Varian Assoc	32.8125	-0.5
Viacom Inc	86.1875	+0.6875
Vishay	13.0625	-0.1875
Vulcan Materials	137.563	+2.6875
Wachovia	83.3125	-1.5
Walgreen	30.5	-0.375
Wal-Mart Stores	85.625	-0.25
Warner-Lambert	67	-1.875
Wash Gas Light	24.3125	+0.1875
Washington Post	551.938	-2
Waste Mgmnt Inc	45.5	-0.9375
Watkins-Johnson	25.625	-0.25
Weis Markets	36.6875	+0.25
Wells Fargo	37.5	+0.4375
Wendy's Intl	24.6875	+0.3125
Westvaco	21.3125	-0.375
Weyerhaeuser	54.625	-1.1875
Whirlpool	43.75	+2.75
Whitman	18.875	-0.125
Williams Co	33.625	-1.9375
Winn Dixie Stos	42.125	-0.9375
Woolworth	5.25	+0.3125
World Comm	80.5	-0.1875
Worthington Ind	12.25	-0.5625
Wrigley	90.9375	-2.3125
Xerox	55.75	+0.25
Yahoo	153.188	-5.9375
Yellow Freight	18.375	+0.3125

LONDON

Allied Domecq	477	+4.5
Allied Zurich	895.5	-7.5
BAT Inds	569	-14
BT	1074	+11
Barclays	1679	+14
Bass	863	+11
Boots	898	+2
British Airways	438	-8.5
Comm Union plc	928	+42.5
Diageo	695.5	+4
General Electric	536	+21
Glaxo	1928	+11
Halifax	721.5	-12
HSBC (75p shs)	1795	-20
ICI	516	-10
Land Securities	837.5	+12
Lloyds Bank	903.5	+20
Marks & Spencer	395	-16.25
NatWest Bank	1271	+20
Prudential	822	+4
Reuters	682.5	+22
Sainsbury	364.5	+4.25
Shell Transport	329	-4.5
Tyco Intl	4450	+0
Unilever	598	-2
Zeneca	2519	-9

PARIS

Accor	215	+5.7
Air Liquide	135	+2.2
Alcatel Alsthom	101.5	+5.15
Euro Disney	1.26	+0.02
Michelin B	37.68	-1.12
Moulinex	10.2	-0.3
Paribas	79.25	-0.15
Pernod Ricard	54.45	+0.85
Peugeot	119.1	-1.6
Saint Goban	143	-1

FRANKFURT

Bayer	33	+1.7
Daimler-Benz	-	-
Lufthansa	20.4	+0.4
Mannesmann	-	-
Metalgesellschaft	15.25	-0.35
Volkswagen	56.7	-0.2

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK(DATE 2-MAR-99)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
Sal (Basket) (1)	4.3478	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	4.047	0

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (1.3.99)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	4.3120	4.3816	—	—	4.3478
U.S. dollar	4.0141	4.0789	3.95	4.13	4.0470
EU euro	4.4117	4.4829	—	—	4.4468
German mark	2.2542	2.2906	2.23	2.32	2.2737
Pound sterling	6.4354	6.5392	6.33	6.63	6.5015
French franc	0.6722	0.6831	0.66	0.69	0.6779
Japanese yen (100)	3.3658	3.4201	3.31	3.46	3.3923
Dutch florin	2.0020	2.0343	1.98	2.06	2.0179
Swiss franc	2.7686	2.8133	2.73	2.85	2.7924
Swedish krona	0.4898	0.4977	0.48	0.50	0.4933
Norwegian krone	0.5078	0.5160	0.50	0.52	0.5115
Danish krone	0.5931	0.6027	0.58	0.61	0.5980
Finnish mark	0.7415	0.7535	0.73	0.76	0.7479
Canadian dollar	2.6606	2.7036	2.62	2.74	2.6828
Australian dollar	2.4948	2.5351	2.46	257	2.5041
S. African rand	0.6511	0.6617	0.59	0.67	0.6564
Belgian franc (10)	1.0930	1.1107	1.08	1.12	1.1023
Austrian schilling (10)	3.2041	3.2558	3.16	3.30	3.2317
Italian lira (1000)	2.2784	2.3152	2.25	2.34	2.2966
Jordanian dinar	5.6458	5.7369	5.40	5.90	5.6920
Egyptian pound	—	—	1.15	1.22	1.1854
Irish punt	5.5982	5.6885	5.52	6.77	5.6463
Spanish peseta (100)	2.6498	2.6926	2.61	2.73	2.6726

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem
Tel. 02-624-4963 Fax. 02-625-9515
http://www.commstock.co.il
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British Pound (1)	6.4975	0
Deutsch Mark (1)	2.2737	0
French Franc (1)	0.6779	0
Japanese Yen (100)	3.3923	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.7924	0
Canadian Dollar (1)	2.6828	0
Italian Lira (1000)	2.2966	0
Jordanian Dinar (1)	5.692	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	9297.61	-27.17
DJ Transport	3279.06	+71.63
DJ Utils	290.72	-0.3
DJ Comp	2883.14	+4.84
NYSE Industr	722.97	-3.19
NYSE Transport	477.18	+2.52
NYSE Comp	582.94	-2.49
S&P 100	611.39	-8.67
S&P Spot Index	1225.52	-10.84
Israel Index	294.49	+0.63

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	6081.3	+0.4
Tokyo Nikkei	13921	-300.7
Singapore all-share index	384.51	-1.94
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	9913.5	-105.9
Israel Index	294.49	+0.63
Paris CAC 40	4048.63	+16.58
DAX	4784.31	-127.5
Madrid	878.14	-12.27
Swiss Market Index	6976.5	-18.5
Sydney	2892.8	-18.3
Milan	1497	-6.47

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

	Last	Change
Pound:spot	1.6158	+0.0079
Mar.future (CME)	1.6136	+0.0054
D-mark:spot	1.7887	-0.007
Mar.future (CME)	0.5596	+0.0016
S-franc: spot	1.4558	-0.0049
Mar.future (CME)	0.6869	+0.0024
Yen: spot	120.16	+0.41
Mar.future (CME)	0.008323	-4.4e-005
CanDlr:spot	1.5215	-0.0004
Mar.future (CME)	0.6577	+0.0008
AusDlr:spot	0.6219	+0.0016
Mar.future (CME)	0.622	+0.0028
F-franc: spot	5.9992	-0.0235
It Lira: spot	1770.5	-7

Ntg: spot	2.0155	-0.0073
AutStg: spot	12.5594	-0.0405
Rand:spot	6.225	+0.06
EURO:spot	1.0934	+0.0043

US COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (CEC)	1223	-55
Coffee (Mar) (CEC)	103.4	+0.55
Wheat (Mar) (CBOT)	253.25	+8.75
Soybean (Mar) (CBOT)	452.5	+8
Orange juice (Mar)(CEC)	87	-0
Crude Oil (Mar)(NYMEX)	-	-
BondsMar.future	12103	+16
S and P Mar.future	1223	-11.5

LONDON COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (LCE)	875	-21
Coffee (Mar) (LCE)	1795	+45
Sugar (May) (LCE)	212.5	-1.5
Brent crude oil (Apr)(IPE)	11	+0.25

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

	Last	Change
Silver spot	5.33	-0.22

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

	Last	Change
Gold (Apr)	288	+0.3
Silver (Mar)	5.331	-0.197
Platinum (Apr)	376.2	-3.9
Palladium (Mar)	353.3	+3.3
High-grade copper (Mar)	0.6215	+0.0055

LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	286.4	-0.65
Gold PM fix	288.25	+1.55
Silver fix	548.5	-13.5

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date (Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)
SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK(DATE 2-MAR-99)

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Superpharm Midrehov, 3 Hahistadrut, 624-6244; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Gvirol, 546-2040; Superpharm Dizengoff Center, 50 Dizengoff, 620-0975.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Magdiel, 54 Derech Magdiel, Hod Hasharon, 741-5567.
Netanya: Tzel Arazim, 24 Weizmann, 834-1732.
Haifa: Super Pharm Neveh Sha'anan, 54 Trumpeldor, 823-2569.
Krayot area: Super Pharm Kiryon, 44 Hapalmah, Kiryat Bialik, 877-9320.
Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 954-9903. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, obstetrics, ophthalmology, ENT); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics); Shaare Zedek (pediatrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

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FIRE 102
FIRST AID 101
Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 8551333	Kfar Sava* 9902222
Ashkelon 6551332	Nahariya* 9912333
Beersheba* 6274767	Netanya* 8604444
Beit Shemesh 6523133	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Dan Region* 5793333	Rehovot* 9451333
Eilat* 6332444	Rishon* 9642333
Haifa* 8512233	Safed 6920333
Jerusalem* 6523133	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Karmiel* 9985444	Tiberias* 6792444

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Help line for English-speakers – Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. MiLev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-111.
Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.
The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Eran – Emotional First Aid – 1201, also Jerusalem 02-561-0303 (Arabic: 563-0301); Tel Aviv 03-546-1111 (children/youth 546-0739); Rishon Lezion 03-956-6661/2; Haifa 04-867-2222 (Arabic: 867-2226); Beersheba 07-649-4333; Netanya 09-862-5110; Karmiel 04-988-8770 (Arabic: 958-3444); Kfar Sava 09-767-4555; Hadera 06-634-6789; Nazareth (Arabic: 06-645-4222).
Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-655-5744/5. 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.
Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133, 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506.
Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.
Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association support service, 02-624-7676.
Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.

WHERE TO GO

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هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

The virtues of growth

By JAMES K. GLASSMAN

David Post is a money-manager in San Francisco who is more interested in how fast a company's profits are growing than in what its stock costs.

This strategy – the growth investor's credo – has been extremely lucrative over the past five years, and especially in 1998. But it sounds like heresy to many investors. Isn't the idea to find good companies that are cheap and wait patiently until the market recognizes their value?

While it still makes sense to search for undervalued stocks, Wall Street these days – and perhaps for a long time to come – is rewarding growth. If you don't have fast-growers in your portfolio, you're making a big mistake. I say this as a bargain-hunter who, only lately, has learned the joys of booming earnings.

"People have discovered growth," Post told me. "If you get the earnings right, you get the price right. It catches up."

Post is a partner in firm of Harris Bretall Sullivan & Smith, L.L.C., which manages $3.5 billion for individuals and for institutions like pension funds. While the firm's culture is conservative and deliberative, it loves growth stocks.

Last year, Harris Bretall earned a net return for its clients of 36.2 percent, compared with 28.5 percent for the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index, which tracks the performance of large companies. Over the last five years, the firm's average annual returns have been 23.4% compared with 24.1% for the S&P and just 17.4% for the average mutual fund, according to Lipper, Inc.

The firm's portfolio is full of big, beautiful growth stocks: Microsoft Corp. (MSFT), the software company, is the largest holding, followed by Charles Schwab Corp. (SCH), the discount brokerage firm, and Cisco Systems, Inc. (CSCO), which dominates the market in computer networking products.

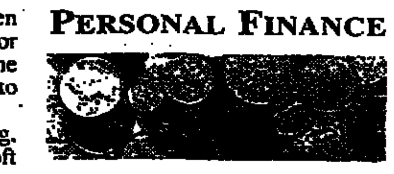
AT the end of last year, the average price-to-earnings ratio (P/E) of Harris Bretall's 44 stocks was 52, meaning that it cost $52 to buy $1 worth of a company's profits. By contrast, the P/E of the S&P was 29.

But there was another difference. Harris Bretall stocks were increasing their earnings at a rate of 18% a year while S&P stocks were growing at just 10% and Dow Jones industrial average stocks at 9%.

"We don't say that Cisco and Microsoft are cheap," Post told me, and he doesn't care that much. Microsoft, with earnings now increasing at 25% annually, has risen by a factor of 14 over the past five years.

As for Cisco: It offers an interesting case study. In July 1997, it was trading at $36, with a P/E of 37. Last Thursday, it closed at $98.50, with a P/E based on estimates of earnings for the fiscal year ending July 1999, of 67.

PERSONAL FINANCE



Earnings have been growing at 30% a year, according to Bloomberg Business News, and the market adores it.

Now take a classic value stock: Caterpillar Inc. (CAT), maker of construction equipment. In July 1997, it was trading at a price of $55 a share and a P/E of just 14. Last Thursday, Caterpillar closed at $45.69 a share, with a P/E, based on estimates of this year's earnings, of 13. Profits are up, but not by enough to thrill investors. The company's long-term growth rate is 10% annually.

IS the market overvaluing growth? Could be. But you should never underestimate a company whose earnings are zipping along. Even if the stock seems to be expensive by conventional measurements, growth holds the trump card – thanks to the power of compounding.

Of course, there are no guarantees that a company whose earnings have been growing at a fast clip for the last five years will do the same for the next five. But it's a good indication – especially for large-capitalization companies with strong positions in their industries.

In a recent issue of his newsletter *Personal Finance*, Stephen Leeb pointed to firms with long-term records of both stability and growth, including Pfizer Inc. (PFE), which has increased its earnings at a 19% annual rate for the past five years; Bank of New York Co., Inc. (BK), 15%; Johnson & Johnson (JNJ), 14%; Coca-Cola Co. (KO), 14%; and IntelCorp., 21%.

Harris Bretall owns all of these but Bank of New York, but Post says he has a positive view of many financial stocks, including Citigroup Inc. (C), formed last year from the merger of Citicorp and Travelers; American International Group Inc. (AIG), the giant international insurer; and three San Francisco-based companies: BankAmerica Corp. (BAC), Wells Fargo & Co. (WFC), whose largest single shareholder is Berkshire Hathaway Inc., Warren Buffett's firm, and Schwab.

These financial stocks appear to be delivering both growth and value.

BankAmerica, for instance, is increasing its profits at a rate of 15% annually, but its P/E (based on 1999 estimates) is just 14.

While Post wants to see a strong track record, the firm is willing to buy modern high-fliers, including Dell Computer Corp. (DELL), whose growth rate Harris Bretall pegs at 25%, and America OnLine, Inc. (AOL), at 35%.

Nearly all of the firm's holdings are very large-cap stocks, but it does own Starbucks Corp. (SBUX), a mid-cap, and estimates its rate of earnings growth at 35% with a P/E of 42.

Starbucks, the coffeehouse chain that's been a favorite stock of mine, has quadrupled in price over the past five years but is down nearly 15% from its July high.

HARRIS Bretall does not run a public mutual fund, but it manages "wrap" accounts, or personal stock portfolios, for clients of brokerage firms. The firm's style is tax-efficient: Its annual turnover rate is 30%, indicating the average stock is held for more than three years (Microsoft and Intel have been owned for more than 10), and the current dividend yield is just 0.7%.

Among the best of the large-cap growth funds is Janus Twenty (1-800-525-8983), managed by Scott Schoelzel, who last year notched a return of 73% and is up 7% already in 1999. His portfolio, highly concentrated, is headed by Dell, America OnLine, Microsoft, Time Warner, Inc. (TWX), Pfizer, Warner-Lambert Co. (WLA) and Nokia Corp. (NOK/A), the Finnish telecommunications equipment company whose shares trade as American Depositary Receipts. Together, these seven stocks represent half of Schoelzel's assets.

How long can it last? "As long as they deliver good earnings, the chances are, these stocks will go up," says Post. So far, anyway, he's been right on the money.

(The Washington Post)

The writer is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute

THE BUSINESS SCENE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



Senior Japanese parliamentarian **Shinji Sato**, who headed a Japanese parliamentary and trade delegation which visited Israel, called on Industry and Trade Minister **Natan Sharansky**. Delegation members, who represented some of Japan's leading trade companies, were interested in forming bilateral relationships, finding investment partners and in research and development.

Malev is gearing up to celebrate the 10th anniversary on March 26 of the first scheduled flight between Budapest and Tel Aviv. Since March 1989, says Malev's sales manager **Nimrod Bar-Or**, travel on this route has increased enormously. In its first year of carrying passengers between Budapest and Tel Aviv, Malev transported 12,000 passengers on 135 flights which had a seating capacity of 19,305. In 1998, the number of flights had grown to 269, the seating capacity to 39,929 and the number of passengers to 30,300. Malev is planning a series of festive events around the anniversary.

Serge Lutens, who since 1980 has created the identity and image of Shiseido, has created his last colors and illustrations for Shiseido make-up. Following the release of the Shiseido 1999 spring-summer collection, Lutens will dedicate himself to the creation of his own brand, drawing support from the prestigious Salons du Palais Royal Shiseido which he created in 1992. His signature products, including perfumes and beauty products, will be offered to the public in spring 2000. **Nathalie Rattier**, former general manager of Parfums Annick Goutal (Societe du Louvre), has taken on the functions of vice president of this new division of Shiseido Europe.

Yossi Eyal, 55, has been appointed head of human resources at the Jewish National Fund. He was previously a commander in the engineering division of the IDF.

Ilanot Investments has appointed **Giora Zarechansky**, 30, as head of its research department. *Zarechansky previously worked* as an analyst for Bank Hapoalim.

Michal Tennenbaum has been appointed deputy marketing manager of the Tel Aviv Sheraton. *Tennenbaum joined* the Sheraton's sales department two years ago following her return to Israel after studies in London. On completion of her army service, Israeli-born Tennenbaum went to Switzerland to study hotel management at Les Roches college, which belongs to the Swiss Hotel Association. On completing her studies there, she continued at the American College in London where she received a BA in business management and marketing.

Ron Shahaf, 28, has been appointed deputy manager of Diesenhaus Wholesale Tours. Shahaf also serves as the company's manager.

HarmonyCom has appointed **Russel Rothstein**, 30, as the company's product manager. Rothstein has an impressive academic background with degrees in computer sciences, management, technology and policy from Harvard and MIT. He was previously operations and marketing manager at Open Sesame.

Esti Pfeffer has been elected the new chairperson of The Israel Association for Computers for Education. Pfeffer, who has a BA in humanities, degrees in systems analysis and business management and has passed a course for directors, heads the computer education division at IBM Israel.

Euro's weakness is a boon for some companies

The euro is looking increasingly fragile since its debut in January. Europe's new currency was expected to rise against the dollar after its introduction at the beginning of the year.

Instead, it's fallen 6.7 percent because European growth is slowing, while the US economy is booming. The euro's weakness makes European exporters more competitive and gives US companies and individuals more purchasing power abroad.

"We profit from the weakness in the euro," said Joerg Dinner, a spokesman for Bayerische Motoren Werke AG in Munich.

"We have costs in euros and sales in dollars, so if the euro weakens," Germany's third-largest carmaker benefits.

The euro began trading in January at $1.16675, and many analysts said it would rise to $1.20 by the end of March. Instead, it fell to a low of $1.0865, and some analysts predict it will slump to $1.

"There's a pretty good chance" that the euro could fall to $1, says Michael Rosenberg, a currency analyst at Merrill Lynch & Co. in New York. "99 [cents] in '99 may be our new slogan for the euro." That could persuade more Americans to take their vacations in Europe, taking advantage of their improved spending muscle.

"This spring and summer could be a blockbuster," said Joe Hopkins, media relations manager at UAL Corp.'s United Airlines in Elk Grove, Illinois. "There will be more people flying [to Europe] than ever before."

The euro, adopted by 11 European nations, will probably fall further because the European Central Bank is leaning toward lowering interest rates to boost growth for the 11 countries that adopted the euro. At the same time, investors are becoming concerned the Federal Reserve may raise rates.

"There's potential for the US dollar to strengthen because growth in the US will be stronger than in Europe," said Klaus Boehm, the head of money and capital markets at BASF AG, Germany's largest drugs and chemical maker. In 1997, the last year for which full-year figures are available, the company made about 39 percent of its 28.5 billion deutsche marks of sales outside Europe.

Accelerating growth in the US has many investors betting the US Federal Reserve will raise interest rates, making assets more attractive. US two-year notes, for example, yield 4.58 percent, while comparable euro notes yield 3.12 percent.

"We've been sellers of euros," said Matthew Robertson, who manages $800 million in global bonds at Neuberger & Berman in New York. He halved his euro investments in the past two months to 20 percent of holdings from 40 percent, buying pounds and dollars.

Some European companies are also welcoming the new currency's drop as a boost for exports, offsetting slowing domestic growth and increasing the value of overseas earnings.

"One relief valve we've seen for European companies is the weakening of the euro," said Tim Harris, European equity strategist at J.P. Morgan & Co.

Using current exchange rates, earnings of $1 million from overseas operations would translate to about 919,000 euros.

Translated at the euro's initial rate, that amount would equal about 857,000 euros. If the euro falls more, overseas earnings will translate to a higher number of euros.

"Increases in the currencies where we have [overseas] business normally are good for us," said Harald Sauer, the treasurer at SAP AG, the world's largest business-software maker. In 1997, about 58 percent of the Walldorf, Germany-based company's sales came from outside Europe.

Still, the company isn't expecting the euro to give it much of a leg-up this year. Currency moves could shave 5 percentage points off revenue in 1999, the firm said, basing its projections on rate of 1.65 marks per dollar, which translates to a euro worth about $1.185. The falling European currency isn't good news for all companies. For some US exporters, it erodes their earnings from abroad because the weaker euro translates into fewer dollars.

European companies that hedged themselves against currency swing will lose out on some of the benefits of a falling euro.

Amsterdam-based Heineken NV, the world's second-largest brewer, budgets for and then hedges much of its currency exposure far in advance.

Getting a boost from a weak euro "won't happen because we hedge," said Albert Holtzappel, a Heineken spokesman.

(Bloomberg)

MUTUAL FUNDS

FLEXIBLE

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Abir	245.13	244.41	+0.24	+0.22	12.3
Adar Flexible	108.84	107.59	+0.32	-0.94	25.8
Afikim Flexible	213.50	210.93	+0.39	-0.08	13.9
Ahrayut Flexible	489.33	480.84	+1.28	+3.25	2.0
Alomot Flexible	111.55	109.68	+0.74	+2.06	11.6
Analyst Deversified	832.06	813.23	+0.50	-0.02	65.2
Apex Flexible	191.94	191.50	-0.15	+0.14	53.6
Arximedes	103.93	101.94	+1.18	+3.05	1.1
Avuka	2017.49	2012.45	+0.89	+2.25	4.9
Bloch Rotstein Flexible	233.21	228.46	+1.20	+1.63	27.5
Clal Flexible	1179.39	1165.51	+0.84	+1.71	4.3
Dikla Mamon	271.95	269.93	+0.84	+4.85	20.2
Dikla Mesav	190.01	189.40	+0.81	+3.47	9.3
Dikla Moked	3511.62	3485.82	+0.78	+3.31	83.5
Dovrat Shrem Flexible	167.33	163.96	+0.70	+0.23	22.1
Emda Flexible Fund	*3974.18*	*3939.18*	*+0.57*	*+3.12*	*28.4*
Epsilon Flexible	165.24	164.81	+0.91	+2.75	8.5
Evergreen Flexible	121.56	120.62	+0.73	+0.27	7.5
Excellence Flexible	3311.58	3269.84	+0.80	+0.05	8.5
Gafor Flexible	105.37	105.08	+0.42	+3.72	1.8
Igud Bonds	108.46	107.98	+0.64	-2.16	2.3
Igud Flexible	188.88	187.91	+0.58	+3.36	16.0
Igud Shikli	148.39	148.39	-0.05	+0.49	214.0
Ilanot 30 Plus	157.64	154.60	+1.82	+0.93	2.7
Ilanot 90	255.80	251.06	+1.09	+0.21	19.5
Ilanot Shiklen And.	2590.35	2590.35	+0.00	+1.37	15.8
Ilanot Tidhar	3358.71	3341.78	+0.71	+0.27	84.2
Kivun Flexible	113.02	112.08	+0.49	-5.33	4.9
Lahak Flexible	765.45	751.88	+0.80	+0.34	80.5
Lamaskiva	—	—	—	—	5.6
Maofim Bonds	108.92	107.88	+0.18	+0.26	7.3
Maofim Flexible	127.24	125.08	+0.68	-0.08	6.5
Maritime Flexible Fund	102.90	101.03	+0.77	+0.81	10.0
Meitav Flexible	178.22	176.83	+0.40	-1.13	3.4
Models Flexible	114.68	112.52	+1.00	+2.09	16.6
Models Teuza	104.92	103.69	+1.33	+2.81	4.8
Mercaz Money Market	150.63	150.63	+0.08	+2.23	12.6
Nesua Zanex Flexible	2575.84	2563.09	+0.54	+1.90	9.1
Netz	65.67	65.50	+1.27	-19.25	0.2
Noga	953.66	941.80	+0.33	-0.14	45.3
Omer Pekan	191.28	187.86	+0.92	-0.69	15.6
Otzar Flexible	106.94	105.06	+0.72	-1.66	3.6
Pekan Saar Flexible Fund	222.37	221.72	+0.96	+2.66	189.8
Pia Hayovel	243.51	242.84	+1.02	+3.07	49.5
Pia Keta	988.08	983.17	+0.73	+1.70	276.3
Psagot Gamish	592.83	582.31	+1.07	+2.00	118.9
Psagot Megama	343.11	341.23	+1.05	+1.59	62.1
Ramco Flexible	191.06	188.89	+0.55	-0.35	9.1
Sigma Flexible	103.95	102.91	+1.89	+4.46	6.8
Sivan	266.55	263.45	+0.62	+0.03	45.2
Telescope	112.27	112.07	-0.55	+3.38	0.9
Yesodot	3201.71	3145.15	+0.42	+0.22	29.7
Zeller Flexible	80.44	79.65	+0.71	+0.53	3.0
Zion Flexible	13307.83	13259.57	+1.01	+3.42	7.7

SHARES

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Adif Pekan	119.57	117.45	+0.04	+0.85	25.9
Afikim Shares	289.51	285.93	+0.68	-0.54	12.4
Ahrayut Oil & Shares	133.49	130.85	-0.76	-8.45	1.3
Ahrayut Real Estate	216.59	212.28	+0.46	-0.14	6.2
Ahrayut Shares	324.76	319.02	+1.15	+4.86	2.2
Alomot Growth	96.89	95.19	+1.37	+1.40	0.9
Analyst Aggressive	166.47	164.58	+0.82	+1.04	43.6
Analyst Equity	1368.83	1337.80	+0.84	+2.01	145.5
Analyst Industries	424.11	414.54	+0.91	+2.32	59.3
Apex Shares	126.80	126.52	+0.26	+1.88	14.1
Atlas Pekan	—	—	—	—	26.7
Baron	231.79	227.61	+0.72	+1.78	9.8
Bloch Rotstein Shares	122.65	120.21	+1.04	+1.73	13.7
Capital Shares	110.35	108.96	+0.42	+3.75	4.6
Chemical Pekan	136.61	134.21	+0.98	+3.67	5.6
Clal Maof	254.38	253.64	+1.42	+4.12	10.5
Clal Shares & Com.	163.93	162.14	+1.16	+3.78	2.1
Dikla Maagal	98.27	97.49	+0.79	+1.68	9.2
Dikla Madad Maof	218.68	217.51	+1.34	+4.18	65.1
Dikla Meretz	560.82	556.34	+1.15	+5.24	56.0
Dikla Mitan	90.79	90.10	-0.14	-4.99	12.2
Dikla Mezar Finance	120.03	119.05	+1.10	-0.49	22.2
Dikla Mivad 30	74.62	74.04	+1.08	+6.47	25.9
Dikla Mivnah	342.42	339.82	+0.76	-3.37	20.9
Dikla Mondial	—	—	—	—	13.9
Dikla Mor	1652.74	1639.60	+1.20	+4.50	76.2
Dovrat Shrem 100	106.84	104.67	+1.02	+0.81	9.2
Dovrat Shrem Yeter	115.22	112.87	+0.58	+0.44	6.9
Emda Export	92.33	91.42	+1.24	+6.07	9.5
Emda High Tech	—	—	—	—	8.0
Emda Maof	228.26	226.61	+1.34	+4.44	29.9
Emda Paz	185.59	183.80	+0.94	+2.41	11.0
Emda Shareves	170.86	169.59	+0.86	+4.20	14.6
Emda T-A 100	2158.87	2137.04	+1.09	+4.30	46.4
Emda Yeter	1536.30	1520.73	+0.77	+0.73	18.9
Epsilon 38	108.67	108.30	+1.43	+3.59	23.2
Epsilon Shares	189.00	188.39	+1.17	+2.52	11.9
Epsilon Technologies	—	—	—	—	14.0
Eraz Pekan	384.85	383.68	+1.34	+3.27	155.5
Esh	621.78	609.69	+1.43	+4.30	1.9
Evergreen High Tech	—	—	—	—	11.5
Evergreen Shares	160.40	159.08	+0.55	-1.73	13.8
Excellence Agressive	274.86	272.07	+0.63	-2.16	8.3
Excellence Shares	656.06	652.69	+1.08	-0.36	7.4
Eyal Shares	130.87	130.87	+1.16	+1.98	5.3
Gal	122.71	121.14	+1.21	+2.04	13.5
Hon Pekan	104.23	102.39	+0.81	+0.56	41.4
Igud Maof	99.26	98.91	+1.32	+4.12	5.3
Igud Shares	154.19	153.38	+0.59	-0.55	7.8
Igud Yeter	100.83	100.32	+0.43	-1.39	3.4
Ilanot Caramim	154.24	153.05	+0.74	+0.85	41.0
Ilanot Communication	114.47	112.48	+0.52	+2.15	46.0
Ilanot Dekel	3255.72	3199.84	+1.11	+1.82	79.7
Ilanot Finance	89.84	88.23	+0.93	-1.49	9.1
Ilanot Globe	—	—	—	—	*10.9*
Ilanot Maof	216.21	215.23	+1.44	+4.33	59.3
Ilanot Nadlan	1447.60	1436.52	+0.36	-0.79	25.5
Ilanot Nimrazet	79.74	79.01	+1.05	+0.37	4.3
Ilanot Shares	5129.36	5034.13	+1.20	-4.12	7.6
Ilanot Shchakim	54.28	53.36	+1.44	+4.24	11.2
Ilanot Sheeek	938.28	921.71	+1.04	+0.11	81.3
Ilanot T-A 100	2925.59	2902.91	+1.25	+2.93	73.0
Israel America	—	—	—	—	0.8
Jerusalem Maof	1609.61	1609.13	+1.49	+3.98	4.2
Kohav Pekan	182.52	179.25	+1.49	+2.01	86.7
Koor Money Market	140.41	140.41	+0.09	+2.15	112.5
Koor Shares	98.96	97.73	+1.25	+2.95	6.3
Lahak Agresivit Plus	81.31	79.97	+1.77	+3.90	14.5
Lahak Ankor	864.41	844.82	+1.00	+2.56	30.1
Lahak Dividends	350.68	349.70	+1.13	+3.10	54.4
Lahak Menayot 30	102.72	102.42	+1.18	+4.70	30.2
Lahak Menayot Yeter	93.54	92.81	+0.36	-3.36	14.4
Lahak Nadlan	129.32	127.04	+0.99	-2.00	26.0
Lahak TA-Wall Street	—	—	—	—	*16.4*
Lahak Tor 100	453.12	445.16	+1.18	+3.23	64.7
Lahak Yatsu	82.60	82.35	+1.03	+5.25	33.8
Lahak Zamir	839.44	824.49	+0.92	+1.93	42.8
Maale Maof Pekan	196.86	193.40	+1.29	+3.56	59.0
Magic	269.45	264.69	+1.04	-2.79	7.5
Martingale Dynamit	—	—	—	—	14.0
Meitav High Tech	—	—	—	—	2.4
Meitav Options	47.01	46.28	+1.20	-2.30	8.9
Meitav Shares	234.96	233.02	+0.41	+3.10	6.4
Meitav Teuza	119.51	118.52	+0.14	+0.85	4.7
Mercazit Caram Manv	53.72	53.58	+0.53	+0.56	0.6
Mercazit Maof	200.68	200.18	+1.41	+3.95	2.0
Mercazit TA 100	258.11	257.35	+1.35	+3.61	2.5
Neciha Continental	60.27	59.19	+0.46	-0.29	10.4
Nesua Zanex Shares	464.11	461.72	+0.52	+1.81	4.9
Nili T-A 100	1086.80	1072.54	+1.08	+2.45	15.6
Omega	128.88	126.63	+0.33	+3.34	1.6
Otzar Foreign Int. Par.	156.97	154.24	+1.19	+1.37	2.1
Otzar Shares	120.87	118.77	+0.93	+0.13	5.8
Otzar Yeter	86.41	84.91	-0.26	-2.99	3.3
Pekan Communication	107.47	107.14	+1.11	—	—
Pekan T-A 100	172.69	169.65	+1.24	+3.04	57.9
Pia 2000	96.23	95.94	+0.79	+0.39	19.1
Pia Bdolech T-A 100	1072.31	1069.32	+1.44	+4.62	73.0
Pia Manof	137.58	137.15	+1.68	+4.46	26.1
Pia Maof	205.83	205.23	+1.27	+3.93	79.6
Pia Michlol	856.70	854.33	+0.98	+1.98	126.4
Pia Odem	1338.06	1334.15	+1.18	+2.54	159.4
Pia Olamit	—	—	—	—	38.2
Pia Yahalom	1152.44	1149.13	+0.86	-1.26	62.4
Pia Zinuk	66.51	66.31	+0.47	+2.63	26.0
Pritza	—	—	—	—	0.8
Psagot 20	89.58	87.39	+1.10	+3.92	98.8
Psagot Al.	75.82	74.48	+1.18	+0.49	17.6
Psagot Focus	114.07	113.45	+0.90	+2.73	72.9
Psagot High Tech	—	—	—	—	37.1
Psagot Mabat Lashalom	140.72	138.23	+1.21	+2.87	38.3
Psagot Menayot	858.58	843.31	+0.63	-0.12	125.9
Psagot T-A 100	390.59	388.44	+1.15	+2.28	201.6
Psagot Yeter	188.53	185.19	+0.86	+0.75	36.7
Raam 90	127.48	125.10	+2.04	+4.30	4.3
Ramco Shares	134.34	132.70	+0.64	+25.66	1.7
Sigma Nivheret	160.62	158.46	+1.07	-0.65	3.0
Simodan Shares & Conv.	73.14	72.03	+1.37	+3.00	0.5
Singer Barnea Financial	111.04	109.12	+1.49	-1.89	0.5
Singer Barnea Shmura	141.95	141.58	+1.18	+0.33	1.7
Tamir Fishman Tamiha	—	—	—	—	11.2
Tsuot Sufa	156.07	154.61	-0.07	+1.36	25.4
Yaar	22.88	22.83	-0.87	-24.13	0.1
Zik	336.43	335.59	+1.15	+1.97	2.5
Zion Shares	142.31	141.54	+1.31	+4.88	2.2
Zion Yeter	79.10	78.86	+0.70	+1.94	3.0

STATE BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Ahrayut State Bonds	477.56	472.11	+0.08	+0.02	8.3
Almog Pekan	280.05	275.10	+0.27	+0.87	95.5
Alomot Bonds	102.80	100.97	+0.12	—	11.4
Analyst Government Bonds	436.21	432.60	+0.37	+0.26	29.9
Clal Dotan	1318.80	1311.94	+0.22	-0.44	4.1
Clal State Bonds	490.19	487.46	+0.24	-0.47	5.9
Dikla Marom	6743.57	6704.53	+0.18	+1.40	30.5
Dikla Mivtah	1828.62	1814.25	+0.23	-0.73	42.8
Ducas	273.58	272.86	+0.07	+0.65	18.7
Emda Goverment Bond	1160.91	1152.32	+0.17	-0.49	64.7
Emda Leshem	1516.58	1501.67	+0.29	+0.16	27.4
Emda Sella	1471.94	1461.42	+0.19	+0.78	46.7
Epsilon Gov't Bonds	224.04	223.73	+0.20	+1.33	29.4
Geva	443.97	438.56	+0.11	+0.25	88.9
Hila Pekan	578.39	578.39	+0.18	-0.75	237.5
Ilanot Egoz	1256.48	1248.34	+0.10	-0.79	82.1
Ilanot Tapuah	712.05	708.96	+0.12	-0.15	21.4
Ilanot Tapuz	1156.26	1148.66	+0.19	+0.12	90.1
Lahak Gov't Bonds	760.89	760.89	+0.05	+1.07	162.6
Lahak Mehalelot	147.78	147.47	+0.22	+1.24	53.5
Lahak Zmudim Arukim	573.96	572.33	+0.27	+0.37	46.7
Maritime Government Bond	*168.64*	*166.45*	*+0.26*	*-0.60*	*14.3*
Meitav Gov't Bonds	133.73	133.04	+0.08	+0.05	20.6
Mekorit Pekan	122.36	121.99	+0.21	+0.21	19.4
Mercazit Gov't Bonds	166.82	165.66	+0.35	+0.98	4.7
Nesua Zanex Gov't Bonds	1478.33	1476.32	+0.12	+0.78	42.3
Otzar Gov't Bonds	165.61	162.68	+0.32	+0.20	14.6
Pia Conv. Bonds 50	262.30	260.26	+0.13	-0.07	58.3
Pia Tarshish	139.08	136.65	+0.22	-0.22	233.2
Pia Zamid	5085.00	4995.57	+0.36	-0.54	148.7
Psagot Agach	630.94	620.09	+0.27	+1.30	43.9
Psagot Maala	476.82	473.35	+0.35	+1.65	55.6
Psagot Madad	607.36	596.73	+0.27	+0.79	99.0
Shavit Pekan	781.44	767.62	-0.11	-0.98	168.9
Yaara Pekan	628.53	617.43	+0.22	+0.75	84.3
Yevul Pekan	813.90	811.50	+0.34	+0.76	161.3
Ziv	677.10	668.52	+0.09	-0.78	44.8
Zohar	552.87	545.96	+0.29	-0.07	37.9

COMPANY BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Bonds	348.61	344.53	-0.11	-0.74	38.0
Ahrayut Bonds	209.16	205.70	+0.18	+0.08	3.8
Amirim	142.26	141.19	+0.17	+0.01	23.6
Analyst Corporate Bonds	307.64	302.20	+0.47	+0.28	87.6
Analyst Money Market	169.91	169.44	+0.08	+1.38	10.0
Apex Tsua	158.39	157.99	+0.02	+0.26	121.2
Bloch Rotstein Bonds	174.49	172.12	+0.23	+1.12	13.3
Bond	167.47	166.20	+0.91	+1.63	7.5
Capital Bonds	160.64	159.46	+0.14	-0.19	8.6
Clal Company Debentures	221.26	220.03	+0.18	-0.04	2.4
Clal Gen' Bond Rating	109.72	109.08	-0.05	-0.46	10.4
Clal Zmira	189.77	189.77	+0.12	+1.68	26.3
Dikla Maayan	961.03	954.28	+0.21	+0.74	49.4
Dikla Magen Plus	109.62	109.62	+0.10	+1.66	122.7
Dikla Maskoret Plus	157.92	157.92	+0.10	+1.82	370.1
Dikla Meimad	511.84	507.95	+0.22	-1.22	49.4
Dikla Mirvah	635.58	630.62	+0.11	+0.48	17.5
Dikla Mivhar	629.45	625.15	+0.09	+0.64	43.0
Dikla Nigvan	2126.11	2112.53	+0.28	+0.83	81.5
Dovrat Shrem Bonds	178.24	175.57	+0.35	+0.53	48.9
Emda Dynamit Magen	116.35	116.35	+0.06	+1.93	40.3
Emda Halamish	150.30	148.80	+0.17	+0.69	14.7
Emda Hamara	1170.88	1159.15	+0.21	+1.70	42.2
Emda Shikli	109.20	109.20	+0.07	+1.82	444.1
Epsilon Corp. Bonds	130.87	130.50	+0.22	+0.59	21.8
Epsilon Money Market	180.62	180.62	+0.10	+1.88	134.5
Evergreen Shkoola	166.62	165.75	+0.21	-0.13	31.7
Excellence Bonds	2319.99	2291.15	+0.17	-0.15	20.9
Eyal Bonds	155.92	155.92	+0.26	+1.08	5.5
Eyal Shotef	151.20	151.20	+0.07	+1.83	14.3
Guy	755.89	746.90	+0.17	-0.34	103.9
Hetz Pekan	652.95	652.95	+0.13	+1.91	936.1
I.B.I Shkalim	161.25	161.25	+0.11	+1.62	134.6
Igud Magen Shikli	102.47	102.47	+0.01	+0.11	4.1
Ilanot Agas	480.20	476.99	+0.18	+0.10	41.4
Ilanot Alon	2095.17	2081.71	+0.07	-0.43	43.6
Ilanot Armon	140.19	139.39	+0.07	+0.34	21.3
Ilanot Conv'bonds	3439.81	3416.45	+0.38	+0.39	7.6
Ilanot Eshel	847.45	841.87	+0.26	+0.43	87.3
Ilanot Etrog	1167.95	1160.13	+0.34	+0.51	56.7
Ilanot Muvtahat	112.44	112.44	+0.23	+1.36	25.7
Ilanot Oren	4338.22	4309.48	+0.40	+0.79	113.0
Ilanot Orion	188.10	186.84	+0.12	-0.75	27.7
Ilanot Rimon	604.99	604.99	+0.07	+1.70	----
Ilanot Shahar	254.59	252.84	+0.08	-0.62	32.8
Ilanot Shaked	234.29	232.85	+0.10	-0.18	38.4
Ilanot Shkoola	179.29	178.03	+0.19	+0.42	47.4
Jerusalem Shikli	101.65	101.65	+0.05	+1.51	40.6
Koor Amnar Bonds	226.80	226.29	+0.08	-0.93	26.4
Koor Ofiender	104.17	104.17	+0.08	+1.76	23.0
Lahak Conv Bonds	253.00	253.00	+0.13	-0.04	68.4
Lahak Magen 95%	165.60	165.60	+0.20	+1.98	86.3
Lahak Money Market	101.41	101.41	-0.08	—	170.4
Lahak Shkalim	105.09	105.09	+0.16	+2.06	239.1
Lahak Yasoor	202.21	202.21	-0.09	+1.89	114.0
Malkarit Pekan	355.94	354.97	+0.54	+2.21	28.0
Maritime Conv' Bonds	107.26	105.41	+0.28	+1.61	1.6
Meitav Corp. Conv. Bonds	*164.16*	*163.26*	*+0.16*	*-0.50*	*14.9*
Meitav Money Market	128.63	128.63	+0.08	+2.23	13.0
Mercazit Conv Bonds	505.77	504.31	+0.27	+0.81	3.1
Mercazit Shikli Gambo	104.10	104.10	+0.07	+1.90	20.9
Models Shmura	117.26	116.11	-0.19	+0.13	14.6
Nesua Zanex Corp' Bonds	193.41	192.54	+0.05	+1.31	10.2
Otzar Shkalim	143.65	143.65	+0.11	+1.71	81.2
Pekan Corporate Bonds	475.62	467.29	+0.02	+0.85	31.4
Pia Halifin	577.47	577.47	-0.12	+1.90	466.0
Pia Mogenet	110.49	110.49	+0.02	+1.71	50.0
Pia Money Market	102.08	102.06	+0.07	+2.05	189.4
Pia Ophir	639.68	636.32	+0.18	-0.79	139.9
Pia Or	1245.95	1224.03	+0.35	+0.80	108.7
Pia Segula	287.40	282.42	-0.48	-0.16	49.4
Pia Shamir	1390.61	1366.08	+0.26	+0.26	113.5
Pia Shkalim Adif	112.98	112.97	-0.12	+0.77	889.0
Pia Tnufa	411.76	404.54	+0.45	+1.17	24.2
Pia Yozma	245.26	240.91	+0.36	+0.33	24.6
Pil	309.46	306.54	-0.27	+0.94	3.6
Psagot Hagana Plus	113.52	113.52	+0.11	+1.96	84.4
Psagot Kol Rega	247.87	247.87	+0.13	+1.92	1062
Psagot Shekel Active	100.29	100.29	-0.08	—	—
Psagot Tashlumim	100.63	98.85	-0.19	-0.79	31.0
Psagot Yersim	630.71	627.47	+0.46	+1.25	177.5
Ramco Bonds	106.08	105.38	+0.09	+1.39	12.2
Simodan Bonds	102.17	100.46	-0.27	-1.37	1.0
Simodan Interest	156.44	156.44	+0.07	+1.82	20.0
Tsuot Hen	189.45	189.32	-0.17	+0.60	34.8
Zeller Conv. Bonds	107.51	106.95	+0.03	+2.73	0.5
Zion Bonds	2093.51	2082.56	+0.19	+0.68	4.4
Zion Gov't Bonds	116.51	116.29	+0.26	+1.34	9.4

FOREIGN CURRENCY

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Foreign	—	—	—	—	29.7
Alomot Foreign Currency	114.83	114.08	+0.11	-1.45	12.7
Analyst Europe	—	—	—	—	24.4
Capital Foreign	—	—	—	—	*1.8*
Dikla Meged	1126.02	1117.36	-0.22	-2.87	54.9
Dollar	—	—	—	—	6.7
Emda Matach	374.79	372.90	+0.15	-2.68	52.0
Emda Tevel	—	—	—	—	48.6
Igud Foreign Currency	109.21	108.57	+0.16	-4.94	10.4
Ilanot Dolev	1020.67	1013.64	+0.22	-2.03	104.5
Ilanot Hul	—	—	—	—	62.7
Ilanot Ilan S.	—	—	—	—	46.5
Ilanot Matach	256.21	256.21	+0.14	-2.40	89.8
Koor Currency Sal	—	—	—	—	10.9
Lahak Cosmos S.	—	—	—	—	10.5
Lahak Kahal	—	—	—	—	60.9
Lahak Matach	675.35	675.35	+0.24	-2.84	340.7
Meitav Foreign Currency	338.63	337.70	+0.19	-2.11	18.4
Monah Pekan S	—	—	—	—	14.9
Nesua Zanex Foreign Curr	98.41	98.41	+0.15	-1.55	5.5
Otzar Foreign Currency	157.01	157.01	+0.26	-2.23	19.7
Pekan Inbal Matach	201.17	201.17	-0.17	-2.42	460.2
Pia Chul	—	—	—	—	117.0
Pia Inbar	126.89	124.65	+0.24	-2.65	317.6
Pia Prime S	—	—	—	—	34.1
Pia Target S	—	—	—	—	125.4
Psagot Chul	—	—	—	—	66.2
Psagot Globe S.	—	—	—	—	61.6
Psagot Israel Horizon	—	—	—	—	48.9
Psagot Matah	610.17	599.34	+0.22	-2.89	193.8
Reshef Pekan	—	—	—	—	50.4
Rosen Continental	—	—	—	—	19.4
Tsabar Pekan	389.34	382.40	+0.34	-1.43	29.8

MIXED

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Eran Pekan	377.20	370.53	+0.46	+1.31	83.0
Emda Kolelet	238.48	236.12	+0.18	+0.02	62.9
Goren Pekan	808.66	806.23	+0.53	+0.06	167.8
Ilanot Barak	3061.38	3009.54	+0.77	+1.27	35.2
Ilanot Brosh	3544.09	3483.99	+0.46	+0.10	63.6
Ilanot Mixed	3046.74	2991.81	+0.61	+0.61	5.7
Lahak Tzofit	813.72	811.56	+0.63	+1.35	142.4
Mad Dikla	149.30	148.36	-0.39	+1.23	16.5
Pekan Shikli Meshulevet	91.77	91.77	+0.16	+0.78	130.5
Pia	9004.15	8848.04	+0.69	+1.87	158.0
Pia Gavish	7458.13	7329.17	-0.46	-0.76	218.3
Psagot Meshulevet	767.92	754.51	+0.68	+1.93	66.3

SOURCE: MEITAV Ltd - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments
DATE 28-Feb-99

The mutual fund prices listed reflect the close of business on MONDAY. They should be used as a guide only and not as the basis for dealing. The Jerusalem Post is not responsible for the accuracy of the data.

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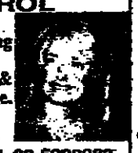
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NBA box scores

New Jersey 27 21 25 25–99
Boston 21 20 30 26–97
NEW JERSEY (99) Gill 9-16 5-6 23, Van Horn 9-23 2-4 20, Williams 2-9 4-6 10, Murdock 2-8 6-8 11, Kittles 9-15 0-0 20, McIlvaine 1-3 0-0 2, D.Jones 1-3 2-2 5, Gatling 3-6 0-1 6, Burrell 1-5 0-0 2. Totals 38-83 19-25 99.
BOSTON (97) Walker 8-21 2-2 21, Pierce 8-16 2-4 20, Battie 6-9 0-0 12, Mercer 5-16 5-6 15, Anderson 7-15 2-3 16, McCarty 0-1 0-0 0, Barros 2-5 0-0 5, DeClerco 3-4 2-4 9, Bowen 0-1 0-0 0, P.Jones 0-2 0-0 0, Riley 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 39-89 13-19 97.
Fouled out—Williams. Rebounds—New Jersey 56 (Williams 16), Boston 51 (Pierce 9). Assists—New Jersey 24 (Kittles 6), Boston 23 (Walker 5). Total fouls—New Jersey 22, BosWas - 4 15, Oakley 4-8, Jo.Thomas 0-0 0-0 0, D.Brown 2-9 0-0 15, Wallace 3-7 6-8 12, McGrady 3-6 3-4 9, Slater 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 33-72 14-19 88.

Toronto 22 20 15 31–88
Charlotte 25 23 22 21–91
CHARLOTTE (91) Reid 9-16 2-6 20, Person 3-8 1-2 8, Coleman 9-15 4-7 24, Wesley 8-18 4-5 21, Pritis 2-10 5-6 10, Burton 0-1 0-0 0, Davis 1-2 0-0 2, C.Brown 0-2 0-0 0, Miller 2-4 0-0 4, Shackelford 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 35-78 16-26 91.
TORONTO (88) V.Carter 6-14 3-4 15, Oakley 4-8 0-0 8, Willis 4-9 0-0 8, Christie 5-12 2-3 15, A.Williams 1-5 0-0 2, Jo.Thomas 0-0 0-0 0, D.Brown 5-9 0-0 15, Wallace 3-7 6-8 12, McGrady 3-5 3-4 11, Slater 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 33-72 14-19 88.
Fouled out—Mons. Rebounds—Toronto 48 (Wallace 10), Charlotte 51 (Coleman 12). Assists—Toronto 19 (A.Williams 5), Charlotte 22 (Wesley 7). Total fouls—Toronto 26, Charlotte 19. Technical—V.Carter. A—18,039.

Cleveland 20 20 12 26–78
New York 26 22 17 20–85
CLEVELAND (78) Kemp 5-14 2-12 12, Henderson 3-8 5-6 11, Potapenko 2-9 3-4 7, Anderson 3-12 2-2 15, Knight 4-11 2-4 10, Sura 0-4 0-0 0, Ferry 1-4 2-2 5, Newman 3-7 5-6 11, Lang 0-1 0-0 0, Butler 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 21-71 35-43 78.
NEW YORK (85) Johnson 6-13 4-5 16, Thomas 4-10 1-2 9, Ewing 8-14 4-8 16, Houston 5-12 4-4 15, Ward 3-5 2-3 9, Camby 1-1 0-0 2, Scott 3-5 0-0 9, Dudley 0-0 0-0 0, Childs 3-6 2-2 9, Williams 0-0 0-0 0, Wingate 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 31-66 17-22 85.
Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Cleveland 52 (Kemp, Potapenko 10), New York 46 (Ewing 12). Assists—Cleveland 13 (Knight 6), New York 21 (Ward 9). Total fouls—Cleveland 24, NY 32. A—19,763.

L.A. Lakers 23 22 16 36–97
Phoenix 28 18 22 23–91
L.A. LAKERS (97) Bryant 3-11 4-5 10, Knight 1-5 0-0 2, O'Neal 12-19 1-5 25, Harper 7-9 0-0 18, Jones 4-11 2-2 10, Fox 6-14 1-1 15, Rooks 1-2 2-2 4, Rodman 3-5 1-3 7, Fisher 2-3 0-0 6, Horry 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 39-80 11-18 97.
PHOENIX (91) McCloud 3-8 2-2 9, Guglliotta 8-13 3-8 20, Longley 7-15 2-3 16, Kidd 5-12 1-3 12, Chapman 3-13 3-4 10, Robinson 6-13 1-2 13, Respert 1-4 0-0 2, Manning 3-5 2-2 8, Kleine 0-1 0-0 0, Morris 0-0 1-2 1. Totals 36-82 15-21 91.
Fouled out—None. Rebounds—L.A. Lakers 52 (Rodman 16), Phoenix 48 (Guglliotta 9). Assists—L.A. 24 (Jones, Fox 5), Phoenix 26 (Kidd 11). Total fouls—L.A. Lakers 19, Phoenix 18. A—19,023.

Atlanta 17 21 16 13–67
Orlando 25 15 8 22–70
Fouled out—Outlaw. Rebounds—Atlanta 53 (Mutombo 12), Orlando 58 (Hardaway 10). Assists—Atlanta 11 (Blaylock 5), Orlando 16 (Hardaway 9). Total fouls—Atlanta 20, Orlando 23. Technicals—Atlanta coach Wilkens. A—15,359.

Seattle 27 29 30 28–105
Sacramento 25 35 22 20–102
Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Seattle 56 (Payton, Polynice 10), Sacramento 56 (Webber 14). Assists—Seattle 27 (Payton 12), Sacramento 23 (J.Williams 10). Total fouls—Seattle 25, Sacramento 28. Technicals—Payton, Baker, A.Williams, Sacramento Illegal Defense, Divac 2. Ejected—Divac. A—16,786.

Philadelphia 29 25 26 24–104
Washington 20 22 24 25–91
Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Philadelphia 55 (Lynch 10), Washington 41 (Howard, Thorpe, Wallace 8). Assists—Philadelphia 26 (Snow 7), Washington 23 (Strickland 8). Total fouls—Philadelphia 27, Washington 22. A—13,614.

World Cup foes meet again in Champions Cup

MANCHESTER (AP) – Wherever he goes, David Beckham gets a reminder of what happened the last time he encountered Diego Simeone.

He's booed every time he touches the ball.

Despite his talent, Beckham is seen as the villain of England's World Cup elimination last summer. He gets the blame because he got sent off for kicking out at Argentina's Simeone after a crude tackle.

England had to play for 70 more minutes with 10 players and eventually lost to Argentina on penalties after a 2-2 tie in one of the most dramatic games of the 1998 World Cup.

The two players will face each other again tonight when Beckham's Manchester United plays Inter Milan in a European Champions Cup quarter-final.

Beckham won't hear any boos this time because United is the home team playing before 55,000 of its fans at Old Trafford.

More likely, it will be Simeone who gets the noisy treatment.

The strong-tackling Argentine player gave Juventus midfielders Zinedine Zidane and Didier Deschamps a tough time in Sunday's Serie A game in Milan and is unlikely to hold back against the Reds tonight.

But he hasn't got any more nasty surprises for Beckham.

"The English public should know that I have a great respect for David Beckham," Simeone said. "He has much talent and will obviously be a danger to us in the coming games. On my part there are no problems between us." Because Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson tends to play Beckham wide on the right instead of in the central midfield role he has with England, Simeone, who plays in the center, is unlikely to be snapping at his heels the entire game.



LET THE GAME BEGIN – Inter Milan's Diego Simeone surveys the pitch at Old Trafford. Manchester United will meet Inter in the first leg of the quarter-finals of the European Champions Cup quarter-finals tonight. (Reuters)

But there will inevitably be times when they do come into contact and Beckham, who has said little publicly about his follow-up confrontation with the Argentine star, hopes to stay on the field this time.

Simeone said he could not understand the bad reception Beckham received whenever Manchester United played away from home.

"What happened in Saint-Etienne was unfortunate for him but he should not be blamed for causing his country to go out of the tournament," Simeone said. "He reacted in the way he did because he was trying to be a winner."

SPORTS *in brief*

Testeverde extends contract with Jets

Quarterback Vinny Testaverde, who enjoyed the best year of his 12-year career in leading the New York Jets to the AFC championship game, signed a three-year contract worth a reported $20 million Monday.

The signing, including a rare four-year club option, was a foregone conclusion as the 1986 Heisman Trophy winner and Long Island native put together a dream season in which he won the starting job and led the Jets to their first division title since the NFL-AFL merger in 1970.

"We're pleased to be able to get this contract done," said Jets coach Bill Parcells. "We look forward to working with Vinny again and hopefully seeing him and the team both improve on their performance." *Reuters*

Cepeda among four elected to Cooperstown

Orlando Cepeda, who hit over .300 nine times in a 17-year career, was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame by the Veterans Committee yesterday. Named with Cepeda were umpire Nestor Chylak, Negro League pitcher Smokey Joe Williams and 19th century manager Frank Selee.

Nicknamed "Baby Bull" and "Cha Cha," Cepeda posted a career .297 average over 17 seasons while hitting 379 homers and driving in 1,365 runs. He won the rookie of the year award for the San Francisco Giants in 1958 and the MVP for St. Louis in 1967. *Reuters*

England teammates charged with misconduct

England teammates Graeme Le Saux and Robbie Fowler were charged with misconduct yesterday after Football Association officials reviewed a video of last weekend's Chelsea-Liverpool match.

Chelsea fullback Le Saux appeared to hit Liverpool striker Fowler in the back of the head with his elbow during the second half of the Blues' 2-1 victory.

The referee and three other match officials missed the off-the-ball incident which left Fowler flat out on the ground.

But the video showed that Le Saux made contact with Fowler's head. It also revealed, however, that the Blues' acting captain was reacting to Fowler's repeated taunts during the Stamford Bridge encounter. *Reuters*

US panel hits hard for IOC reform

Saying "the Olympic flame must burn clean once again," a special US panel on Monday condemned bribery in the awarding of the Games and said the Olympic movement should be reformed from top to bottom. The panel's head, former US Senator George Mitchell, recommended that the governing International Olympic Committee (IOC) become a more open and accountable body with respect to its structure, finances and the way members are elected. *Reuters*

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Drive Careful!!!

Tame is the Spurs

If ever a club epitomized the changing face of modern English football, it's Tottenham.

The White Hart Lane stadium is situated in the middle of one of London's worst inner-city areas just a few hundred meters from the notorious Broadwater Farm estate But on entering the confines of the East Stand you are immediately transformed to a world of designer cars, personalized number plates and camel coats.

London Calling



Mark Rivlin

And at last those coats have got something to smile about.

Already in the final of the Worthington Cup, Tottenham go to First Division Barnsley on Saturday in the FA Cup quarter finals just two games away from a second Wembley appearance.

And as camel coats go, they don't come much longer than manager George Graham's, whose stylish touchline dress adds to the mystique surrounding a man who simply oozes the word "winner."

Graham's CV was impressive enough before Spurs chairman Alan Sugar enticed him away from Leeds United earlier in the season, but the 16-match unbeaten run at the Lane is adding a touch of creativity to the rock-solid defense he has built at the club.

Last week's fifth round replay against Leeds was classic Spurs circa 1960s and classic Graham circa 1990s. A dour first-half performance soaking up an impressive young Leeds side pressure followed by the second-half artistry of David Ginola, who singlehandedly won the game.

In the after-match press conference, an ebullient Graham disclosed that at halftime he had told Ginola to stay more on the left – one can presume there were a few choice adjectives added to that instruction.

Your correspondent is by no means an Arsenal supporter, but in the interests of accurate reporting it is important to set the record straight.

Graham has achieved great things at Spurs – possibly his most notable effort being to bring out the best in Darren Anderton and Ramon Vega - but the fact of the matter is that, despite the unbeaten run, his team are still on the fringes of the Premiership relegation pack.

On Saturday, with the terrific Cup win behind them, the Spurs could only manage a tame draw with Derby County, and with cups on their minds, there could be an end-of-season scramble to avoid the drop.

One senses that kind of scenario would be right up Graham's street.

Ginola is enjoying a purple patch and appears to be fully rehabilitated after struggling under the Spurs' last manager, Christian Gross. The French winger is being touted for a recall to international duty – he has not played for France since 1993, when he was publicly humiliated by then coach Gerard Houllier, now manager of Liverpool.

Ginola has everything – the film-star looks, intelligence and charisma; off the pitch he enjoys such diverse activities as modeling for shampoo and campaigning against land mines.

Interestingly, a new magazine published this week is targeting Ginola and his ilk. *Players Journal* is the monthly publication of the Professional Footballers Association and is sent to all PFA members and is not available in the shops.

Its 128 glossy color pages are full of tips on how to spend that £20,000-£40,000 per week, and there are plenty of ads from the designer clothes, watches and property companies.

And of course there are articles on how to deal with the media and autograph hunters. One wonders what your average Third Division player scraping together a living will make of it all.

As for Leeds, manager David O'Leary has taken Graham's assembled side to greater heights playing attractive football.

Monday night's win at Leicester moved Leeds to fourth, with Europe certainly on the agenda.

Such is the commitment from both players and fans that captain Lucas Radebe insisted on playing at Leicester, despite only arriving in England from international duty from South Africa a few hours before the game.

The Leeds fans who made the trip to Tottenham showed their true northern grit by baring their chests at halftime on what was a bitterly cold night.

The Premiership is proving to be a topsy-turvy ride for some teams – none more so than Sheffield Wednesday, which kept up their recent revival with an excellent win over struggling Middlesbrough on Saturday to move into the top 10 for the first time since September.

Such is the roller-coaster ride that there is actually talk of Wednesday pushing for a place in Europe, but manager Danny Wilson is looking the other way.

"Until we are safe we will not be looking at anything else," Wilson said in true Yorkshire style after the game.

As for Middlesbrough, things just go from bad to worse. Following last week's revelations that Paul Gascoigne had been publicly goading colleague Mikkael Beck came the disclosure that manager Bryan Robson had been involved in an extra-marital affair.

Robson has been commuting from Cheshire to Middlesbrough, and his team's slump in form along with the tabloid intervention into his private life have impacted upon him to such an extent that he is actually considering resigning from football.

The football rat race appears to know no boundaries with the news that First Division Norwich City are complaining to the Football league about the conduct of Manchester United, which are allegedly flying one of Norwich's 13-year old schoolboys for weekly training to Manchester.

According to the FA's Charter of Quality, schoolboys can only train at clubs located within 90 minutes of their home, but United could argue that the trip from Stanstead Airport to Manchester is about one hour.

And if you think that's going too far, there was a report in one paper last week about a two-year old being monitored by a club.

And yes, he will be good at selling the opposition a dummy.

NZ fights gamely to save Test



South Africa's Shaun Pollock (right) celebrates with Paul Adams after bowling out New Zealand's Adam Parore for 9 runs on the fourth day of the first Test yesterday in Auckland. (Reuters)

Geoff Allott breaks record with 101-minute duck

AUCKLAND (Reuters) - Geoff Allott scored the finest nought of his career as New Zealand battled gamely to save the first Test against South Africa at Eden Park yesterday.

At the close of play on the fourth day the home side had reached four without loss in their follow-on innings after a remarkable 10th wicket stand between Allott and Chris Harris had extended their first innings for an unlikely 101 minutes.

Needing 422 to avoid the follow on, the home side fell 69 runs short of that target, all out for 352, but the extra time used by the last two men helped protect the top order at the end of a tiring day and may have gone a long way to saving the match.

Allott remained scoreless throughout the stand and finished with the longest duck in both Test and first class cricket, passing Vincent Hogg's 87-minute nought for Rhodesia in 1979 and then Godrey Allen's 97-minute zero for England against Australia in Adelaide, 1946.

Allott faced 77 balls during his record-breaking stand.

As news of Allott's impending achievement spread around the ground, the crowd of several thousand cheered loudly and the modest 26-year-old, who has a career total of 86 first class wickets compared to a total of 83 runs, raised his bat and acknowledged the applause.

The day had begun perfectly for South Africa's bowlers who claimed two wickets in the first two overs of play to reduce the home side from their overnight 205 for two to 210 for four before taking lunch at 237 for five.

Craig McMillan chased an impossibly wide delivery from Hansie Cronje and edged a simple catch to wicket keeper Mark Boucher to depart for 25 to the sixth ball, which left the middle order exposed to the new ball, due just six overs into the day.

The second over was bowled by spinner Paul Adams and Matthew Horne made the mistake of playing back to the fifth ball, a rapid top spinner which kept low and passed between bat and pad to bowl the opener for 93.

He faced 225 balls and struck 13 fours.

Adam Parore, forced to postpone a court appearance for dangerous driving in order to play on the fourth day, made nine runs from 54 balls before playing a ball from Shaun Pollock onto his stumps.

Lance Klusener removed Matthew Bell (6) and Dion Nash (1) in successive overs after tea as the home slipped again from 237 for five to 251 for seven.

Daniel Vettori dominated an eighth wicket stand of 43 with Chris Harris before top edging a sweep against spinner Paul Adams to Hansie Cronje at mid on.

He made a bright 32 from 74 balls with five boundaries.

Just one over was possible in New Zealand's second innings after Allott was finally dismissed, caught at slip off the bowling of Jacques Kallis, and Matthew Horne scored all four of New Zealand's runs as they reduced the total deficit to 265.

Oilers overcome impressive Fleury debut with Avalanche

DENVER (Reuters) – Theo Fleury made an impressive Colorado debut on Monday, igniting a furious third-period rally that fell just short as the Edmonton Oilers held on for a 4-3 victory over the Avalanche.

Fleury, traded to Colorado Sunday after spending his entire career in Calgary, received a warm welcome in McNichols Arena and responded by scoring his 31st goal at 6:57 of the third period with the Avalanche trailing 4-0.

But Bob Essensa, faced with a 50-shot onslaught, made 47 saves for the Oilers.

Essensa stopped 28 shots over the first two periods before Fleury, who had several solid scoring chances, finally broke through.

"I kind of got all the jitters out in warmup, it was a nice reception from the crowd, it was fun," the longtime Flames star said. "I heard people during the national anthem yelling 'Theo Theo.' It feels good and it makes you feel welcome."

Early in the second period, Fleury was denied by Essensa on a 2-on-1 rush with Joe Sakic.

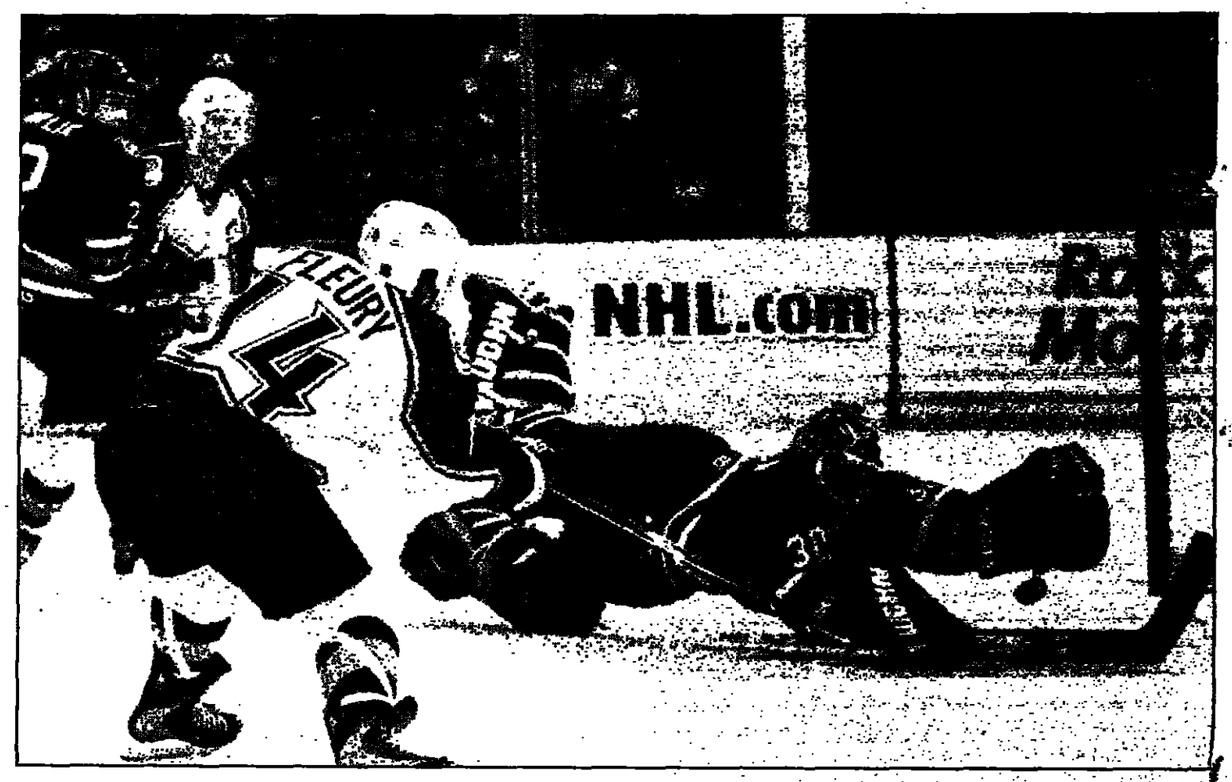
But just under seven minutes into the third, Fleury scored from the bottom of the right face-off circle.

"Theo's got a tremendous shot and he can pass the puck as well," Sakic said.

Valeri Kamensky scored off a rebound of Claude Lemieux's shot just over two minutes later and the Avalanche made it a one-goal game with 5:29 remaining as Sakic set up Aaron Miller in the slot for a wrist shot that beat Essensa.

But Essensa denied Sandis Ozolinsh from the doorstep with two minutes remaining to preserve the win for Edmonton.

Boris Mironov and Rem Murray scored power play goals 45 seconds apart to put the Oilers ahead 4-0 only 92 seconds into the third period.



Theo Fleury scores his first goal as a Colorado Avalanche on Monday, scoring past Edmonton Oilers goalie Bob Essensa. (Reuters)

Josef Barenek and Bill Guerin also scored for Edmonton.

The Oilers' penalty killing unit held Colorado scoreless in six chances with a man advantage.

Sharks 2, Flames 1

Defenseman Bill Houlder scored twice and Mike Ricci set up both goal as visiting San Jose Sharks edged Calgary.

San Jose snapped a seven-game winless streak (0-5-2) to remain one point behind seventh-place Edmonton in the West.

Meanwhile, the Flames fell four points behind the Sharks in the battle for the eighth and last playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Mike Vernon stopped 29 shots for San Jose and nearly recorded his fifth shutout of the season.

He made a tremendous glove save on Valeri Bure's redirection but fell into the net and lost control of the puck, allowing Calgary to tie it 1:52 into the second period.

The Sharks managed to take only 14 shots on net on the night, but Houlder beat Ken Wregget for the second time just 16 seconds into the third period on a slap shot from the high slot for the game winner.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	33	20	8	74	181	153
Philadelphia	30	17	13	73	187	137
Pittsburgh	32	20	7	71	187	163
N.Y. Rangers	25	28	7	57	169	170
N.Y. Islanders	19	35	7	45	143	183
Northeast Division						
Ottawa	33	18	8	74	170	128
Toronto	34	21	5	73	194	176
Buffalo	28	20	12	68	163	132
Boston	25	24	10	60	154	140
Montreal	24	29	8	56	144	158
Southeast Division						
Carolina	27	23	12	66	160	154
Florida	22	22	16	60	153	159
Washington	25	30	5	55	153	159
Tampa Bay	13	41	5	31	123	214

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	31	25	6	68	183	158
St. Louis	25	24	10	60	165	151
Nashville	21	33	6	48	141	193
Chicago	17	37	8	42	136	196
Northwest Division						
Colorado	30	23	8	68	166	151
Edmonton	24	28	9	57	168	159
Calgary	21	30	10	52	156	176
Vancouver	19	33	9	47	148	189
Pacific Division						
Dallas	38	11	9	85	171	116
Phoenix	30	20	10	70	149	136
Anaheim	27	25	9	63	164	150
San Jose	21	27	14	56	137	145
Los Angeles	23	33	5	51	140	162

Venables rules out return as England coach

LONDON (AP) — Former England soccer manager Terry Venables yesterday ruled out a return to the position he left in 1996, even if he is still a candidate when Kevin Keegan's part-time, four-match stint as national coach is over.

Venables was touted as a firm contender for the job when Glenn Hoddle was fired by the Football Association last month following his controversial comments about disabled people.

But Venables, who managed England from 1994 to 1996, says he is no longer interested in the job.

"It's too late now," he was quoted as saying in yesterday's *Daily Mail* newspaper. "If I was going to be the next manager it would have happened by now.

"I think the FA would have let Keegan have anything to take the job – just as long as it wasn't me," he added. "Now I have my own plans. Of course it's disappointing but that's the way it is."

Venables, who coached Australia's soccer team in a failed bid to reach the France '98 World Cup finals and then returned briefly to league management at Crystal Palace, said he didn't expect Keegan to extend his commitment as national boss beyond England's next four games.

Chretien: No funds for Expos

SAINT-HUBERT, Quebec (AP) – Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien says his federal government will not step in to help save the Montreal Expos.

"We're not in the business of helping sports teams," Chretien said Monday, noting the government did not step in when Winnipeg and Quebec City lost their National Hockey League franchises. "We have decided not to intervene."

Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard has also refused government aid.

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig has given the Expos until Saturday to find a new ownership group and finalize plans for a new downtown baseball stadium. If the deadline passes, Selig may give the Expos current ownership permission to negotiate with groups in Washington, D.C., and Northern Virginia who seek a team.

Duke retains No. 1 spot in college basketball poll

NEW YORK (AP) – Duke, which made school and conference history last weekend, was No. 1 in The Associated Press US college basketball poll for the fourth straight week Monday, while No. 2 Michigan State reached its highest ranking in 20 years.

The Blue Devils (29-1) capped the first 16-0 season in Atlantic Coast Conference history on Saturday with an 81-61 victory over North Carolina, extending their winning streak to a school-record 24 games.

For the second straight week Duke received all but one of the first-place votes from a national media panel, getting 71 and 1,799 points.

Michigan State (26-4) again got the other No. 1 vote and had 1,694 points to move from third to second, its highest ranking since being No. 1 for two weeks during the 1978-79 season. The Spartans, led by sophomore Magic Johnson, won their only national championship that season.

Connecticut moved up one place to third and Auburn, which lost at Arkansas last week, dropped two places to fourth.

Maryland and Stanford remained fifth and sixth and were followed by Cincinnati, Utah, Miami and St. John's.

Utah, which was 12th last week, is back in the top 10 for the first time since the first poll of the regular season. The return trip to the top 10 was a little longer for Miami, which was last there in the final poll of the 1959-60 season.

Ohio State dropped one spot to No. 11 and was followed by UCLA, Arizona, Kentucky, North Carolina, College of Charleston, Indiana, Tennessee, Wisconsin and Iowa.

The last five teams were Florida, Arkansas, Minnesota, Missouri and New Mexico.

The next-to-last poll of the season had a sizable shakeup as 14 ranked teams lost at least one game last week.

Four teams reentered the Top 25 this week – Tennessee, Arkansas, Minnesota and Missouri.

Tennessee (20-7) came back in at No. 18 and on a six-game winning streak, the last of which was over Kentucky on Sunday.

The Volunteers were ninth in the preseason poll but were gone by the fifth week of the regular season.

Arkansas (20-9) returned at No. 22 after a three-week absence. The Razorbacks lost at Alabama on Saturday but had beaten Auburn and Kentucky in their previous two games.

Minnesota (17-9) was out of the Top 25 the last two weeks and returned at No. 23 having won three of four. Missouri (20-7) is ranked for the third time in the last five weeks, this time coming in off a road victory at Texas on Saturday.

Two of the four teams that fell out of the rankings had been in the Top 25 all season.

Purdue (19-10), which had been as high as eighth this season, dropped out from 23rd following losses to Minnesota and Michigan State. Syracuse (19-10), which had been as high as No. 12, dropped out from 24th following Sunday's loss to Connecticut.

Temple (19-9), which was tied for 24th last week, fell out after one week back in the poll after losing to Massachusetts on Sunday. Texas (18-11) made its first poll appearance of the season last week at No. 22, but was gone after the loss to Missouri.

Top 25	
1. Duke (71)	29-1
2. Michigan State (1)	26-4
3. Connecticut	25-2
4. Auburn	26-2
5. Maryland	25-4
6. Stanford	24-5
7. Cincinnati	25-4
8. Utah	24-4
9. Miami	21-5
10. St. John's	23-7
11. Ohio State	22-7
12. UCLA	21-7
13. Arizona	20-6
14. Kentucky	22-8
15. North Carolina	22-8
16. Coll. of Charleston	28-2
17. Indiana	22-9
18. Tennessee	20-7
19. Wisconsin	21-8
20. Iowa	18-9
21. Florida	19-7
22. Arkansas	20-9
23. Minnesota	17-9
24. Missouri	20-7
25. New Mexico	22-7

هكذا من الأصل

CRITICS' CHOICE

MUSIC

RACHEL BELL

For a slight change of pace, catch rock musician Barry Sakharof in concert. Sakharof, whose mature, sober, deep voice and rough guitar range through serious and steady ballads to progressive rock to Grateful Dead-like jams, is a great adult remedy to Purim costume-hamantaschen binging. Tonight at Jerusalem's Ha'oman 17 Club at 9.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN



Geoffrey Rush as Walsingham in 'Elizabeth.'

★★★ ELIZABETH – Shekhar Kapur's epic about the early years of Queen Elizabeth I's rule begins with hallucinatory shots of Protestants being bloodily shorn and then burned at the stake; toward the end, the film features views of Catholics having their heads chopped off and then placed for display on spikes. In between these two gory bookends comes a lurid but engrossing swirl of palace conspiracy, ominous music, sex, poisoned silk, homicidal ambition, war, slit throats and lavish costumes. This is the sort of larger-than-life picture in which John Gielgud puts in a brief cameo as the Pope, and the formidable French actress Fanny Ardant delivers all her lines in one scene while (it seems) kissing a butter knife. *Elizabeth* is hardly a great film, though it does cast a darkly hypnotic visual spell as it provides enough plain old-fashioned melodramatic juice to hold us in our seats. With the very impressive Cate Blanchett in the lead. (Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Sheppard: In the Middle of Life; Bach: Fugue in G minor BVW 1000 / Prelude, Fugue and Allegro BVW 998; Byrd: Te Deum
7:07 Haydn: Piano Sonata no 59 in E flat op 49 (Schiff); Purcell: Te Deum (soloists, consort, choir of Taverner Players / Parrott); Haydn: Piano Sonata no 59 in E flat op 49 (Gould)
8:05 Chopin: Scherzo no 2 op 31 (Pogorelich); Haydn: Piano Trio in E flat op 29 (Schiff / Shiokawa / Pergamenschikov); Bach and Shostakovich: Preludes and Fugues (Mustonen)
9:05 Schumann: Piano Quintet op 44 (Levine / Lasalle Quartet); Haydn: Symphony Concertante in B-flat op 84 (Bamberg SO and soloists / Guschlbauer); Mozart: Flute Concerto no 1 in G K313; Nielsen: Clarinet Concerto; Bliss: Symphony of Colors; Bizet: Symphony in C 12:00 Light Classical – works by Bizet-Schedrin and Waldteufel
13:00 Artist of the Week: Ostar Sultan Kahn – Saringis and Voices. Music for sarings and tabla
14:06 Encore for Purim with Danny Kaye, Amsterdam Loecki Stardust Quartet, Professor Peter Schickele, Emanuel Gruber, cello, and Michael Boguslavsky, piano
16:00 Mozart: March from Don Giovanni (Hampson, Hall and others); Piazzolla: Seasons of the Year for Piano and Strings; Bolling: Picnic Suite (Rampal / Lagoya / Bolling)
18:00 Saint-Saens: The Swan (Tortelier / Reeves); Brahms: Intermezzo in A (Rudy); Fauré: Soir – song (Baker / Moore); Widor: Romance for Flute and Piano (Snowdon / Liton); Franck: Prelude, Chorale and Fugue (Richter); Chopin: Sonata in G minor for Cello and Piano (Du Pré / Barenboim); Zemlinsky: Piano Trio op 3 (Cologne Clementi Trio); Dvorak: String Quartet no 6 in F op 96 "American"
20:30 The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra-IBA / David Shallon, conductor. Yinaam Leaf: Viola Concerto (Tabea Zimmermann); Mozart: Sinfonia Concertante in E flat for Viola and Violin K364 (Zimmermann / Schneider); Beethoven: Symphony no 9 (Biryuchov / Mick / Archer / Moore / Mozart Linz Choir)
23:00 Golden Generation – The Busch Quartet / second program. Beethoven: Trio "Ghost" in D op 70/1 (R.Serkin / A. and H. Busch / recorded 1940); Beethoven: Quartet no 13 in B flat op 130 (1941)

■ RADIOWEST

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWEST local news
6:00 Morning Drive with Talsha Bader(until 9:00)
7:45 Sports Update
8:08 Lions Trust Financial Update
9:00 Morning Brunch with Sharon Wagner and Friends
12:00 Junior Pick of the Hits with Donna Abraham
15:00 M&M's Pic 'n' Mix
18:00 Purim Fun with Dr. G and The Interns
21:00 Purim WestRock with Shotgun Shelley and Tamar Yonah
1:00 Late Night Music

■ BBC WORLD SERVICE

6:00 The World Today
7:00 The World Today
8:00 The World Today
9:00 World News
9:15 Outlook
9:55 My Century
10:00 World News
10:05 Westway
10:20 Off the Shelf: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
10:35 One Planet
11:00 World News
11:05 Sounds Right
11:20 World Ranking
11:50 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Britain Today
12:45 Legal World
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Sports International
14:00 World News
14:05 Outlook
14:45 Sports Roundup
15:00 Newshour
16:00 World News
16:05 One Planet
16:30 Meridian (live)
17:00 World News
17:05 Sports Roundup
17:15 From Our Own Correspondent
17:30 Jazzmatazz
18:00 World News
18:15 Insight
18:30 Multitrack: X-Press
19:00 Europe Today
19:30 World Business Report
19:45 Sports Roundup
20:00 World News
20:15 Britain Today
20:30 Sports International
21:00 World News
21:05 One Planet
21:30 Legal World
21:45 Off the Shelf: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
22:00 Newshour
23:00 World News
23:05 World Business Report
23:20 Britain Today
23:30 On Screen
00:00 World News

TV

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

ARABIC PROGRAMS
6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Hanni's Purim Room
10:00 Sesame Street
10:25 Hanni's Purim Room
10:30 Fairy Tales
11:00 New Vision – for Purim
11:30 The Peanut Butter Solution (1985) – wacky comedy about an 11-year-old who loses all his hair
13:00 Hanni's Purim Room
15:00 Sesame Street
15:25 Hanni's Purim Room

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Purim Zap
16:00 The Mask
16:30 The Simpsons
16:59 A New Evening
17:35 Marked Places
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Family Matters
19:00 News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Election Special
20:20 With Meni
21:00 News
21:30 One on One
22:05 The Lakes – final episode
23:30 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

■ CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 Song of the Day
6:00 Rupert Bear
6:43 Coffee Tel-Ad
9:00 Third Time
10:00 Esther
11:40 Head Over Heels – with Danny Robas
12:05 Borderline (rpt)
13:00 Golden Age
13:30 Kate and Allie
14:00 The Mommie
14:30 Tick Tack
15:00 Disney Time
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Street Corner
17:00 Five with Sukenik
17:30 Sport TV
18:00 VIP – part 8
19:00 Posing with Yael Abecassis
19:30 Election Diary '99
20:00 News
20:30 Fact with Ilana Dayan
21:20 Ramat Aviv Gimmel
22:05 Avraham and Ya'acov
23:20 The X-Files: new season
00:00 News
00:05 The X-Files (contd.)
00:25 M*A*S*H
00:50 Cuba Libra – documentary about Cuba in 1998
1:30 Tel Aviv Jazz Festival – Amikam Kimmelman
2:20 Red Sea Jazz Festival
3:10 Night Song

■ JORDAN TV (31)

Passages from the Koran and news until the end of the official 40-day mourning period (March 20) for King Hussein

■ MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)
(unconfirmed)

7:30 700 Club
8:00 TV Shopping
15:00 Buddy Buddy
15:30 The Bionic Six
16:00 Woody Woodpecker
16:30 Donkey Kong District
17:00 700 Club
17:30 Arabic World News
18:00 CNN Entertainment
18:30 Coach
19:00 Wiseguy
20:00 Commish
21:00 League Soccer
23:00 Late Night with David Letterman
23:30 CNN Entertainment
00:00 TV Shopping
2:00 700 Club

CABLE

■ ITV 3 (33)

16:30 Dictator
17:30 Animation
18:00 The Oppressed
19:00 News in Arabic
19:00 Telekesset
20:00 Doctors Talk
20:30 Royal Canadian Air Farce
21:00 News
21:30 Scent of Mint
23:00 Favorite Cities – six European cities

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Cone Zone
16:00 Boogie's Diner
16:00 The Adventures of the Bush Patrol
17:00 Animation
17:30 Summer Vacation
18:00 Pique Nique
18:30 Marketing
19:00 Talks about People: Abraham Lincoln
19:30 Vis-a-Vis
20:00 New Evening
20:30 Tastes
20:55 Little Big Country
21:00 Twenty Plus
21:30 Comedy Company
22:00 In the Heat of the Night
22:45 Escape from Tibet

■ CHANNEL 3

6:30 Love Story with Yossi Siyas (r)
7:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (r)
7:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
8:10 Celeste
9:00 Falcon Crest
9:45 The Young and the Restless (r)
10:30 Days of Our Lives (r)
11:15 Forever Little Women
12:00 Barnaby Jones
12:45 Dallas
13:30 Newsradio
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Ricki Lake
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Forever Little Women
16:45 Days of Our Lives
17:30 Friends
18:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Melrose Place
20:25 Message From Nam (1997), part 1 – based on a Danielle Steel novel about an idealistic reporter who travels to wartime Vietnam and falls in love with a war hero. With Jenny Robertson
22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10
22:30 Seinfeld (r)
23:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
23:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
00:15 Nikita (r)
1:05 Ghost Stories
1:50 Red Shoe Diaries

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Runaway Daughters (1994) – comic drama set in 1957. When a teenager becomes pregnant, she and two friends try to catch her boyfriend before he can enlist in the Navy. With Julie Bowe, Holly-Fields and Jenny Lewis
13:00 Johnny Angel (1945) – melodrama about a young man who searches for his father's murderers. With George Raft, Claire Trevor and Signe Hasso
14:20 The Saint's Vacation (1945) – Leslie Charteris's Simon Templar travels to Switzerland in search of Axis secret codes. With Hugh Sinclair
15:30 Josh Kirby... Time Warrior: Chapter 5, Journey to the Magic Cavern
17:05 Josh Kirby... Time Warrior: Chapter 6: Last Battle for the Universe (1995)
18:30 Special Report on *The Thin Red Line* with Sean Penn
18:50 A Wing and a Prayer (1997) – airplane disaster film. With Claudia Christian, Jeff Yagher and Jessica Tuck
20:25 After Jimmy (1996) – a family tries to deal with the suicide of their teenage son. With Meredith Baxter, Bruce Davison and Peter Facinelli
22:00 Tales From the Crypt: Bordello of Blood (1996) – comedy horror based upon the successful '50s comics and '80s television series. The seductress Lilith rises from the dead and sends out an army of irresistible vampire women. With Dennis Miller and Erika Eleniak
23:25 The Glimmer Man (1996) – a former commando who is now a policeman is sent to track down a serial murderer whose victims include his ex-wife. With Steven Seagal
1:00 Wilbur Falls (1997) – thriller. A teenager decides to get her revenge on a group of kids who harass her, but things get out of hand. With Danny Aiello and Sally Kirkland
2:30 The Snapper (1993, 94 mins.) – delightful comic adaptation of a Roddy Doyle novel about the teenage daughter of an Irish working-class family who finds herself pregnant. Directed by Stephen Frears

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 The Little Bits
8:30 Arthur
9:00 Kofiko
9:30 The Smurfs
10:00 Purim on the Children's Channel
10:30 Ninja Turtles
10:55 Batman
11:15 Purim on the Children's Channel
11:45 Saved By the Bell (2 episodes)
12:30 Crazy with Gil Sassover
13:00 Purim on the Children's Channel
13:35 Simba, the Jungle King
14:05 The Little Bits
14:30 Arthur
15:05 Kofiko
15:30 The Smurfs
16:00 Purim on the Children's Channel
16:30 Ninja Turtles
16:55 Batman
17:15 Purim on the Children's Channel
17:45 Saved by the Bell (2 episodes)
18:30 Crazy – with Gil Sassover
19:00 Purim on the Children's Channel
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 Full House
20:45 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air – reruns
21:10 Lois and Clark

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 The Body Snatcher (1945) – classic thriller adapted from a Robert Louis Stevenson story of a 19th-century doctor who is forced to deal with a rogue in order to obtain cadavers for his research. With Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi
23:20 Till the Clouds Roll By (1947, 135 mins.) – biopic of songwriter Jerome Kern, with Judy Garland, Frank Sinatra, Lena Horne and Dinah Shore

■ CHANNEL (8)

6:00 Open University (rpts from Tuesday at 23:30)
8:00 Shabluł: Dolphin & Shark
8:30 Beyond 2000 (r)
8:55 Anatomy of Love (r)
9:45 Peter Sculthorpe – portrait of the composer
10:40 Nathalie Dessay Sings – the Lyon Opera Orchestra plays Mozart
12:20 From Monkeys to Apes, part 4 (r)
12:50 Hunt For Amazing Treasures (r)
13:15 3,000 Mile Garden (r)
13:40 Secrets of World War II: The Corpse that Fooled the Axis 14:30 Future Fantastic (r)
15:25 Living Beyond 2000
17:00 Open University: Faces of Culture; More than Numbers; Drama, Play, Performance
19:00 From Monkeys to Apes, part 5
19:30 Hunt For Amazing Treasures, part 9
20:00 Living in Africa: Masai in the Modern World 20:30 Peak Performance: Gymnastics
21:00 Secrets of World War II: The Last Days of Hitler – reconstruction using Eva Braun's diary
21:55 Susie is a Fish – portrait of an extraordinary swimmer
22:50 From Monkeys to Apes (see 19:00)
23:20 Open University: Celluloid Heroes; Archeology: Universe, Infinite Frontiers
1:20 From Monkeys to Apes
1:50 Hunt For Amazing Treasures (r)
2:10 Living in Africa (see 20:00)

■ STAR WORLD (18/15)

6:00 The Pretender (r)
7:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
8:00 Santa Barbara
9:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
9:30 Burt Wolf's Menu
10:00 Snowy River, The McGregor Saga
11:00 Mysterious Island
11:30 Small Wonder
12:00 The Brittas Empire
12:30 World News
13:00 Asia News & World Business Report
13:30 Home Improvement
14:00 Space Island One
15:00 Big Easy
16:00 Murder Call
17:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
17:30 Home Improvement
18:00 Space Island One
19:00 Big Easy
20:00 Murder Call
21:00 Home Improvement
21:30 Newhart
22:00 The Brittas Empire
22:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
23:00 The Wonder Years
23:30 Mr. Belvedere
00:00 Aerobics Oz Style
00:30 World News
1:00 Home Improvement
1:30 Candid Camera
2:00 Aerobics Oz Style
2:30 The Brittas Empire

■ NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (17/19)

6:00 Borneo's Ornate Caves
7:00 CNBC
13:00 The Mysterious Black Footed Ferret (r)
14:00 Greenhouse Gamble
15:00 A World with Dolphins
16:00 The Monkey Player
16:30 Tribal Voice (r)
17:30 Desperately Seeking Sanctuary (r)
18:30 A Few Acorns More
19:00 Borneo's Ornate Caves
20:00 Okavango Magic – wetlands in the Kalahari
21:00 The Orphanages – people who devote their time to orphaned animals
21:30 Caveman Spaceman – descent into Lechuguilla cave in New Mexico
22:30 A Man, A Plan, A Canal: Panama
23:30 Amazon Bronze – project of sculptor Felipe Lettersten
00:00 Monarch, A Butterfly Beyond Borders
1:00 Poles Apart – a race to the North Pole
2:00 Okavango Magic (r)

■ BBC WORLD (13/14)

News on the hour
6:30 USA Direct (r)
7:30 Reporters (r)
8:30 Holiday (r)
9:30 Hard Talk (r)
10:30 Reporters (r)
11:30 Hard Talk (r)
12:30 The Travel Show (r)
13:00 The World Today
14:30 Reporters (r)
15:00 World News and Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 Talking Movies (r)
17:30 Hard Talk
18:30 Reporters (r)
19:30 Holiday (r)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (r)
22:30 Money Programme
23:05 World News and Business Report
23:30 Top Gear
00:10 Europe Direct
1:30 World Business Report
1:45 Asia Today (r)
2:30 Holiday (r)

■ CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)

News throughout the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:05 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (r)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sports
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (r)
12:30 World Sport
13:15 American Edition
13:30 Biz Asia
14:30 Business Unusual
15:15 Asian Edition
15:30 World Report
16:30 Showbiz Today
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Style with Elsa Klensch
19:00 Larry King Live (r)
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business Today
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight
00:00 World Business Today
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline Newshour
2:30 Showbiz Today

■ SKY NEWS (14/13)

News on the hour
6:30 Showbiz Weekly
7:30 CBS Evening News
8:00 Sunrise
12:30 Sky World News
13:30 Money
16:30 Prime Ministers Questions
18:30 Sky World News
19:00 Live at Five
21:30 Sportline
22:30 Sky Business Report
23:30 Sky World News
00:00 Prime Time
2:30 CBS Evening News

■ CHANNEL 5 (05)

6:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 To be announced
17:30 UEFA Cup Soccer
18:30 National League Volleyball
19:30 Sports News
20:00 NBA - Miami vs New York 21:15 European Champions League Soccer Studio
21:40 Live European Champions League Soccer – Manchester U vs Inter Milan

■ EUROSPORT (15/16)

9:30 Athletics
10:20 Nordic Skiing
11:30 Soccer – UEFA Cup
15:00 Tennis
15:30 Nordic Skiing
17:00 Live Swimming – World Cup
19:00 Soccer – UEFA Cup
21:00 Motorsports
22:00 Sumo
23:00 Dancing
00:00 Fitness
1:00 Motorsports
2:00 Luge

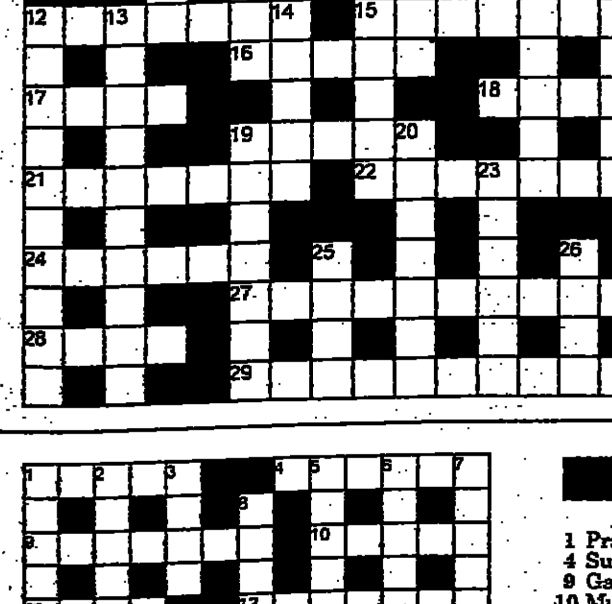
PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	Election Special	Election Diary '99	Melrose Place		Family Matters / Married with Children	Hunt for Amazing Treasures / Living in Africa
20:00		News				
20:30	With Meni	Fact with Ilana Dayan	Message From Nam	After Jimmy	Full House / Fresh Prince of Bel Air	
21:00	News				Lois and Clark	Secrets of World War II
21:30	One on One	Ramat Aviv Gimmel				Susie is a Fish
22:00	The Lakes	Avraham and Ya'acov	Yair Lapid Live at 10	Tales From the Crypt: Bordello of Blood	The Body Snatcher	
22:30			Seinfeld			From Monkeys to Apes
23:00			The Tonight Show with Jay Leno			

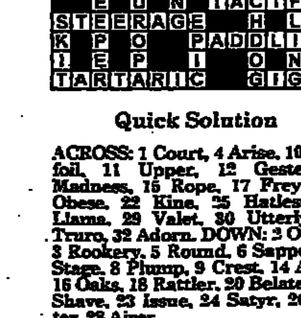
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Almost within range? (4,6)
9 You might say it when offering a gift—or present (4)
10 An improvement in culture (10)
11 Publications for entertainers? (6)
12 On board get rotten seats (7)
15 Refuse to go through all the cases? (7)
16 Pulls back the grass (5)
17 Has a tumble in snow (4)
18 Branch member (4)
19 Great figure, a master to his mate (5)
21 Salad greenery and French dressing in a light basket (7)
22 Infantile habits (7)
24 One must back the law to some degree in this African state (6)
27 Mere agents might make them (10)
28 Such pomposity is not a front (4)
29 In which the reserves run out (6,4)

DOWN
2 It's always right to follow the first mate (4)
3 Was abusive. yet guarded? (6)
4 Irritates by the unnecessary loss of a point (7)
5 Takes advantage and gains three points on centre court (4)
6 At heart he'd a desire to get married (7)
7 From vice I'd reformed in stir, possibly? On the contrary (10)
8 Meals and beers set out for get together again (10)
12 It's wet and fine at the same time (6,4)
13 She serves school (6,4)
14 Go into liquidation when working hard? (5)
15 New or old slaver (5)
19 Servants turn in between lunch and dinner? (7)
20 Coward and criminal come up in a ship (7)
23 Expect brawl in bar (6)
25 He's American at heart (4)
26 It's hotly tipped so raise the stake (4)



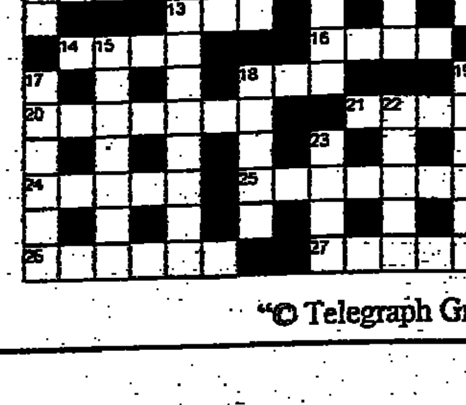
SOLUTIONS



Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Court, 4 Arise, 10 Trefoil, 11 Upper, 12 Geste, 13 Madness, 15 Rope, 17 Freya, 19 Obese, 22 Kine, 25 Hatless, 27 Llama, 29 Valet, 30 Utterly, 31 Truro, 32 Adorn. DOWN: 2 Obeys, 3 Rookery, 5 Round, 6 Sappers, 7 Stage, 8 Plump, 9 Crest, 14 Aeon, 16 Oaks, 18 Rattler, 20 Belated, 21 Shave, 23 Issue, 24 Satyr, 26 Enter, 28 Airer.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Praises (5)
4 Supplicant (6)
9 Gastropod (7)
10 Musical tonic? (3-2)
11 Consumes (4)
12 Traveller (7)
13 Insect (3)
14 Young horse (4)
16 *Othello* villain (4)
18 Put on a Spanish noble? (3)
20 Cuban dictator (7)
21 Rim, advantage (4)
24 African explorer, say? (5)
25 Mat, boat (7)
26 Gusto (6)
27 All over (5)

DOWN
1 Thick, like the proletariat? (6)
2 Shady (5)
3 Potato (sl.) (4)
5 Russian priest (8)
6 Shouting (7)
7 Cooks in oven (6)
8 French accent (5)
13 Skin bubbles (8)
15 Used in porridge (7)
17 Denigrator (6)
18 Ball (5)
19 Changed direction (6)
22 Old-fashioned (5)
23 14's mum (4)

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MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE The Big Lebowski 5 • Barton Fink 7:30 • Blood Simple9:30 • 54 10 G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Dangerous Acts∞Affliction∞Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 4:30, 7:15 • Lolita∞The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show∞The Magic Sword∞Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30 • The Mousehunt∞Paulie 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30 JERUSALEM THEATER The Milky Way 7, 9:30 • Washington Square 7, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot The Waterboy∞ Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 9:45 • Parent Trap 11 a.m., 1:30 • The Little Mermaid∞Pippi Longstocking∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL ☎ 5700868 Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Stepmom 7:15, 10 • The Magic Sword 4:45 SMADAR ☎ 5618168 Happiness 7:30 • Black Cat White Cat 5, 10

TEL AVIV
Lolita 11 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 1, 5:30, 10 • Character *(Dutch, Hebrew subtitles)* 11 a.m., 3:15, 7:30 GAT ☎6967888 Thin Red Line 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 GLOBUS ☎6081130/1 Prince of Egypt∞You've Got Mail∞ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • Head On 7:30, 10 • Paulie 11:30 a.m., 2 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5G.G. HOD 1–4 ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Dangerous Acts∞The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Ronin∞The Big Lebowski 5, 7:30, 10 LEV ☎5288288 Black Cat White Cat 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Velvet Goldmine 12 noon, 2:30, 7:30, 10 • Happiness 12 noon, 4, 7, 9:45 • Girls' Night 12:30, 5 • The Dream Life of Angels 2:45, 7:30, 9:45 • Hana-Bi 5 LEV AVIV ☎6417148 Black Cat White Cat∞Girls Night 7:30, 10 • The Dream Life of Angels∞Hana-Bi 7:30, 10 • Nights of Cabiria 7:30 • Velvet Goldmine 10 LIMOR ☎6968084 he Mighty 6 • The Shall We Dance 8 • Forbidden Love 10 G.G. PE'ER ☎5442141 You've Got Mail∞Affliction∞ Dangerous Acts 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5 RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 7:30, 9:45 • Stepmom∞ Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • The Little Mermaid∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 • Parent Trap∞Pipi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674 Opera House Love At Second Glance∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Little Voice∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Next Stop Wonderland 5, 7:30, 9:45

HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎8325755 Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:30 • Character 7:15, 9:30 CINEMATHEQUE ☎8383424 Vertgigo 7 • 1948 9:30 MORIAH ☎ 8242477 Happiness 7:15, 9:30 ORI ☎ 8500056 Prince of Egypt 11:30 a.m., 4:45 • Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • Got Mail 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show . 7:15, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • The Mousehunt ∞Paulie∞The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 4:45 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 4:45 PANORAMA ☎ 8382020 Lolita 4:15, 7, 9:30 • You've Got Mail 4:30, 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 11 a.m., 4:30 • Paulie∞Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 4:30 RAV-CHEN ☎ 8500055 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Rush Hour 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 8674311 Thin Red Line 6, 9:15 • Love At Second Glance 7:15, 9:30 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 8416898 Thin Red Line 6, 9 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 4:45, 7, 9:30 • Little Voice 7, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 7, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7, 9:30 • Something About Mary 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:30 • Parent Trap∞Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1 • The Little Mermaid 11 a.m., 1, 3 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 8246553 The Waterboy 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Little Voice 7:15, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 7, 9:30 • The Little Mermaid∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

AFULA
RAV CHEN ☎6424047 The Waterboy∞ Rush Hour 11 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 7:15, 9:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 Rush Hour∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • The Siege 5, 7:30, 10 • Parent Trap 11 a.m.

ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 You've Got Mail∞ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Gingerbread Man∞Under Heaven 7:30, 10 • Paulie∞The Mousehunt 5 RAV CHEN ☎8661120 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour∞There's Something About Mary 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Siege 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Parent Trap∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 • Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m.

ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 You've Got Mail∞ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Magic Sword∞Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 RAV CHEN ☎6711221 The Waterboy 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Rush Hour∞There's Something About Mary 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Mulan 11 a.m. • Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Lolita 7, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • You've Got Mail∞Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 1 • Parent Trap 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 • Mulan∞Pippi Longstocking∞The Little Mermaid *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

BEERSHEBA
G.G. ORI ☎6103111 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Central Station 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎6235278 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 9:45 • Parent Trap 11 a.m., 1:30 • Mulan∞ *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

EILAT
EILAT CINEMA The Waterboy 5, 8, 10 • Rush Hour 7:30, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 GIL ☎6340182 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • The Negotiator 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 • Small Soldiers 5, 7:30

HADERA
LEV ☎6343555 Rush Hour∞Girls Night 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 10 • Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 • ANTZ 11 a.m., 5

HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 Thin Red Line 6:30, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 5:30, 7:30, 10 DANIEL ☎ 9544044 Black Cat White Cat 7:30, 10 STAR ☎ 9589068 Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5

HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 hin Red Line 6, 9:30 • Washington Square 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 5 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m.

HOLON
GLOBUS The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 1:30 a.m., 2, 5 • Paulie∞The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 2 STAR I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 11:30 a.m., 7:30, 10 • The Siege 10 • There's Something About Mary 11:30 a.m., 5 • Stepmom 7:15 • The Truman Show 11:30 a.m., 5 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 5, 7:30, 10 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5

KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 The Waterboy∞ Rush Hour 11 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:15, 9:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Prince of Egypt∞The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* ∞Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 2

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL ☎8779877 Dangerous Acts 7, 9:30 • Lolita 7, 9:30 • You've Got Mail 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Stepmom 7, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege∞There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe Black 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 11 a.m., 4:30, 7 • The Mousehunt 11 a.m., 4:30 • The Magic Sword 11 a.m., 4:30

KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6905080 Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Siege∞You've Got Mail 4:30, 7, 9:30

NAHARIYA
G.G. GIL You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 5

UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6561332 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Rush Hour 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege∞There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Washington Square 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:15, 7, 10 • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:30, 7

NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • There's Something About Mary 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 5 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m. • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)*∞The Mousehunt 11:30 a.m., 5

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Dangerous Acts∞The Truman Show 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail∞Central Station 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • Small Soldiers∞ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 5 • The Mousehunt∞The Magic Sword∞Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 RAV CHEN ☎ 8618570 Thin Red Line 9:30 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5 • The Little Mermaid *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

OR AKIVA
RAV CHEN☎ 6262758 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 7, 9:30 Mulan • *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

OR YEHUDA G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 5333292 Meet Joe Black 9:30 • Washington Square∞Sliding Doors∞ The Truman Show 7:30, 10

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. GIL 1-6 ☎ 9087989 The Waterboy 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • You've Got Mail∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • ANTZ∞Small Soldiers∞Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • The Magic Sword∞Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2 G.G. HECHAL ☎ 9317374 Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10

RA'ANANA
CIN MOFET ☎ 7482915 King of the Masks 8:30 PARK ☎ 7711321 Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • Rush Hour∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Happiness 7:15, 10 • Stepmom 5, 7:30 • Life Is Beautiful 10:15 • Wrongfully Accused 11 a.m. • Dr. Dolittle 11 a.m. • Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 5 RA'ANAN The Waterboy 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Lolita 5, 7:30, 10:15 • You've Got Mail∞The Siege∞Little Voice 11 a.m., 5, 10:15 • ANTZ∞Ever After 11 a.m. Love At Second Glance 7:30 • The Little Mermaid *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m.

RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 6197121 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 6730687 Thin Red Line 6.15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞You've Got Mail 5 15, 9:30

RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 Lolita 7 9:30 • Dr. Dolittle 11 a.m., 5

REHOVOT
CHEN ☎ 9362868 Lolita 7, 9:45 • Little Voice 7:30, 9:45 • Central Station 7:15 9:45 • Character 7:15, 9:45 RAV MOR ☎ 9493595 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • You've Got Mail∞Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Parent Trap 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 • Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 1 • The Little Mermaid∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

RISHON LEZION GIL 1-3 ☎ 9500785 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 5 7:30 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 7:30 • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m HAZAHAV ☎ 9514968 Prince of Egypt 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail∞Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 10 • ANTZ∞Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 RAV CHEN ☎ 9670504 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5 • Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • The Little Mermaid∞Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3 STAR ☎ 9619985 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 11:30 a.m., 7:30, 10 • The Siege 10 • There's Something About Mary 11:30 a.m., 5 • Stepmom 7:15 • The Truman Show 11:30 a.m., 5 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 5, 7:30, 10 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m. 5

SHOHAM
STAR ☎ 9793834 The Siege 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m.5 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5

YEHUD
RAV CHEN ☎5367910 The Waterboy∞Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30 9.45 • Pippi Longstocking∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1:30, 3

All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated. Telephone reservations (credit card) can be made for Golan Globus (G.G.) cinemas at 1-700-50-50-50

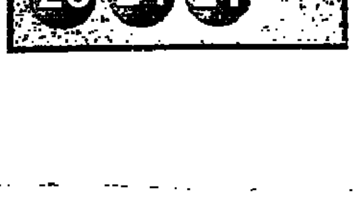
WINNING CARDS

in yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily chance drawing



WINNING NUMBERS

in yesterday's weekly Lotto draw



NHL Roundup



Page 18

Sports Editors: Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

EL AL
Your Gateway to the world

Bologna slices up Mac TA

Sets up must-win scenario at Yad Eliahu tomorrow

By BRIAN FREEMAN

Defending European champions Kinder Bologna totally outclassed Maccabi Tel Aviv, trouncing the Israelis 78-57 last night in Italy to go one game up in the best-of-three Final 16 series.

Maccabi must win tomorrow night in Yad Eliahu in order to force a return trip to Bologna for the rubber match the following Thursday.

Kinder was on all facets of its game, using its stifling defense to almost completely shut down Maccabi and utilizing its great ball movement and shooting touch to appear unstoppable on offense, hitting an eye-popping 60.5 percent from the field.

Maccabi, on the other hand, looked no better than cardboard cutouts on defense.

It failed to stop Bologna's inside game and barely bothered to cover the Italians from three-point range, even as Kinder (averaging only four three-pointers a game) had seven buckets from behind the arc in the first half alone and was 9-of-12 overall.

On offense Maccabi – with the exception of Victor Alexander – looked helpless, shooting only 39.6% from the field, well below its 50.7% average in the EuroLeague entering the game.

Oded Katash, Tel Aviv's leading scorer at 19.8 a contest, had a particularly subpar game. He managed only 6 points and had just two field goals, one of them on an uncontested layup.

Bologna served notice from its opening time down the court that it meant business in its quest to become the first repeat champion since Split captured the last of its three consecutive titles in 1991, as superstar Pedrag Danilovic, out since January 10 due to injury, connected on Kinder's first shot.

Although the game remained tied at 17-17 midway through the period, Bologna went on a 29-15 run to close out the half and take a 46-32 advantage into the locker room.

Bologna then scored the first eight points of the second half to put the game of of reach, as Maccabi was unable to come any closer than 18 points after that point in a listless performance for the Israeli champions.

Even as it became clear that Maccabi did not have the stamina for a comeback, Bologna continued its aggressive defense before the home crowd as Tel Aviv went down to its tenth defeat in the city out of 10 all-time attempts in the EuroLeague.

Antoine Rigaudeau was particularly exceptional for Bologna, connecting on five three-pointers (including two four-point plays in the first half) en route to 19 points on the night.

Danilovic had 15 for Kinder, while Radoslav Nesterovic, who was instrumental in almost completely shutting down Maccabi's inside game, contributed 12 points. Hugo Sconochini had 11 and Alessandro Frosini 9.

For Maccabi, Alexander had 16, Doron Sheffer 11, Guy Goodes 9, David Benoit 7, Katash 6, Gur Shelef 3, Nadav Henefeld 2 and Zdravko Radulovic 1.

IN other Final 16 results, it was Efes Pilsen defeating visiting CSKA Moscow 73-58; Villeurbanne 95-63 over Cibona Zagreb in Lyon; hosts Zalgiris Kaunas trouncing Ulker 76-62; Olimpija Ljubljana over visiting Pau-Orthez 72-63 and Olympiakos defeating visiting Varese 78-66.

There were two Final 16 encounters in which the home team lost, as Panathinaikos – with a 15-1 final pool record - fell 63-58 to Teamsystem Bologna in Athens and Real Madrid outlasted Fenerbahche 89-81 in Istanbul.

Knicks 'D' stops Cavs cold

NEW YORK (AP) – The New York Knicks put on another defensive show on Monday night, holding the Cleveland Cavaliers to 21 field goals, just two above the NBA record, en route to an 85-78 victory.

The Knicks, who have played their best at home but have been dreadful on the road, won their seventh in a row at Madison Square Garden in a game dominated by foul shots.

Box scores, Page 17

Cleveland went to the line 43 times, making 36, to keep it close despite shooting a meager 29.6 percent (21-for-71) from the field.

Patrick Ewing had 16 points and 12 rebounds, Larry Johnson added 16 points and Allan Houston had 15 for the Knicks.

Shawn Kemp scored 19 points, although he missed all seven of his second-half shots.

Nets 99, Celtics 97

Keith Van Horn's short jumper from the right baseline bounced straight up off the rim and fell through as time expired to lift visiting New Jersey.

After Boston tied the game 97-97 when Andrew DeClercq hit the second of two free throws with 7.2 seconds left, Van Horn, who finished with 20 points, grabbed Eric Murdock's miss.

He turned and fired a shot that appeared short, hitting the side of the rim, before going up and through as the buzzer sounded.

Kendall Gill had 23 points and Jayson Williams added 10 points and 16 rebounds before fouling out to pace the Nets, who snapped a six-game losing skid.

76ers 104, Wizards 91

Allen Iverson outhustled and outperformed the host Wizards with 38 points and six assists, and Philadelphia stretched its longest winning streak in seven years to five.

The 76ers are four games over .500 for first time since Nov. 20, 1991, when they were 7-3. Their 5-1 road record is the best in the league.

Washington was outrebounded 44-33, including 13-5 at the offensive end, as the Wizards lost their fourth straight – all at home.

Coach Bernie Bickerstaff, sick with the flu, missed a game for the first time in 10 NBA seasons as a coach, leaving assistant Jim Brovelli in charge.

Magic 70, Hawks 67

Penny Hardaway nearly had a triple-double with 19 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists as host Orlando overcame poor shooting and mistakes down the stretch.

Hardaway made four free throws in the final 2:48 and also blocked a shot and grabbed a crucial rebound after nearly costing the Magic a bad inbounds pass.

Dikembe Mutombo scored 23 points and added 12 rebounds for the Hawks.

Orlando remained unbeaten in eight home games and improved the best record in the Eastern Conference to 11-4.

Lakers 97, Suns 91

Dennis Rodman pulled down 16 rebounds, scored seven second-half points and played crucial defense down the stretch as visiting Los Angeles improved to 3-0 since he joined the team and 4-0 since coach Del Harris was fired.

Derek Harper scored 18 for the Lakers, including four of five 3-pointers, the last one giving Los Angeles the lead for good, 87-85, with 1:08 to play.

Los Angeles, down by 10 early in the final quarter, outscored the Suns 13-6 over the game's final 1:08.

Shaquille O'Neal scored 25 points for the Lakers. Tom Gugliotta had 20 points and nine rebounds for Phoenix.

Hornets 91, Raptors 88

Derrick Coleman hit the go-ahead free throw with 16.8 seconds left and then rejected a driving lay-up by Doug Christie in the closing seconds. Coleman finished with 24 points and 12 rebounds.

David Wesley chipped in 21 points with seven rebounds, seven assists and five steals and J.R. Reid added 20 points for the host Hornets.

SuperSonics 105, Kings 102

Gary Payton had 10 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter, including a pair of free throws with 1:34 left to break a tie.

Vin Baker added a season-high 31 points for host Seattle, which trailed by 14 points in the third period.

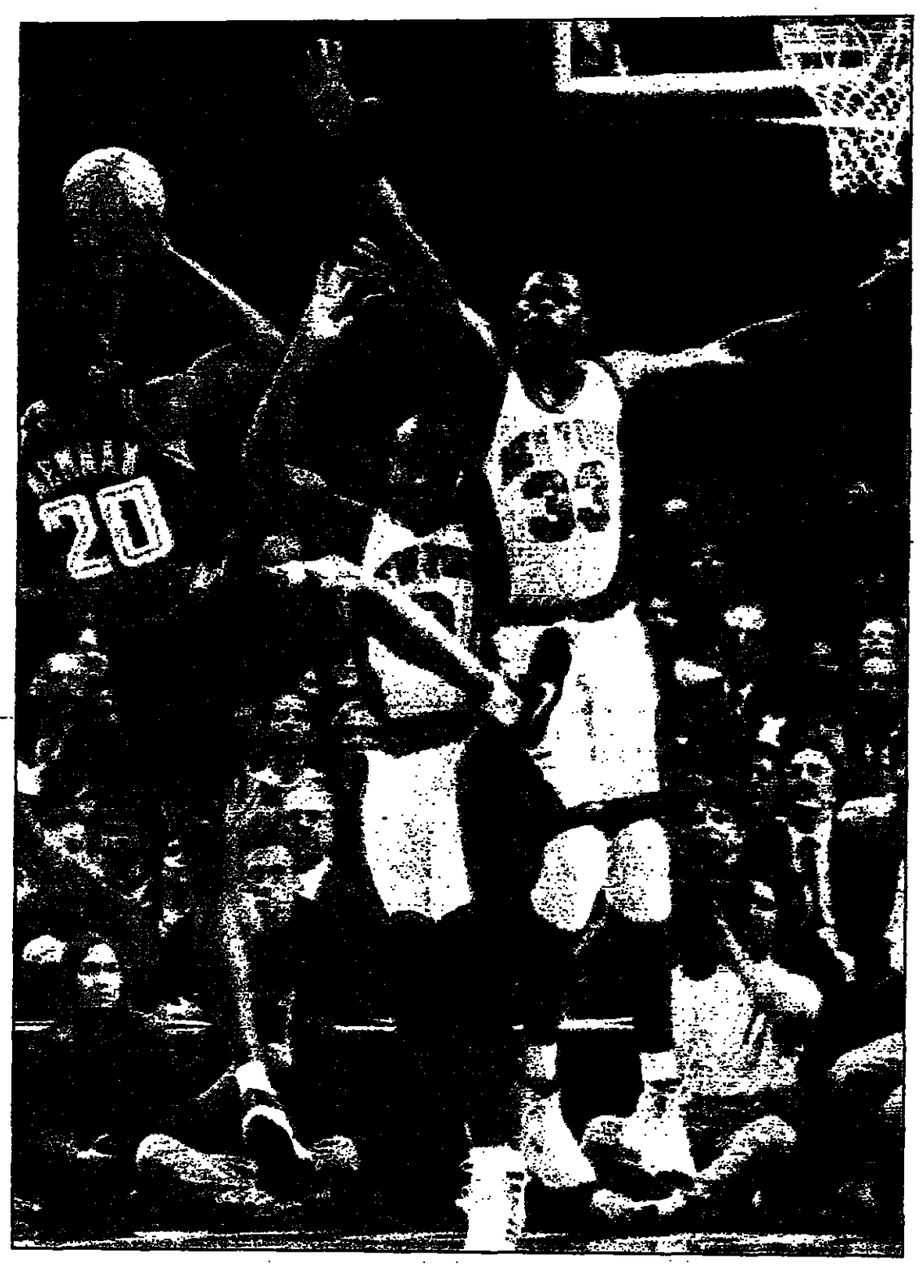
After Payton gave Seattle a 98-96 lead with his free throws, Baker hit a long jumper with 27 seconds remaining. Baker, fighting a shooting slump all season, was 15-for-19.

Sacramento's Jason Williams was fouled while attempting a 3-pointer with 4.1 seconds left. He hit the first two free throws, but missed the third.

Payton, who had 12 assists and 10 rebounds, then added two free throws to give Seattle its final margin.

Chris Webber celebrated his 26th birthday with 20 points and 13 rebounds for the Kings, who have lost five of their last six games.

Monday's Results:
New Jersey 99, Boston 97
Philadelphia 104, Washington 91
Charlotte 91, Toronto 88
New York 85, Cleveland 78
Orlando 70, Atlanta 67
L.A. Lakers 97, Phoenix 91
Seattle 105, Sacramento 102



AIR FORCE – New York Knicks guard Dennis Scott and center Patrick Ewing (33) try to block a shot by Cleveland Cavaliers forward Johnny Newman in Monday night's game in New York. (Reuters)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	11	4	.733	–
Miami	9	4	.692	1
New York	9	5	.643	1½
Philadelphia	9	5	.643	1½
Boston	6	6	.500	3½
Washington	4	8	.333	5½
New Jersey	3	10	.231	7
Central Division				
Indiana	9	4	.692	–
Atlanta	8	6	.571	1½
Detroit	8	6	.571	1½
Milwaukee	6	5	.545	2
Cleveland	5	7	.417	3½
Toronto	4	9	.308	5
Chicago	4	10	.286	5½
Charlotte	3	9	.250	5½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

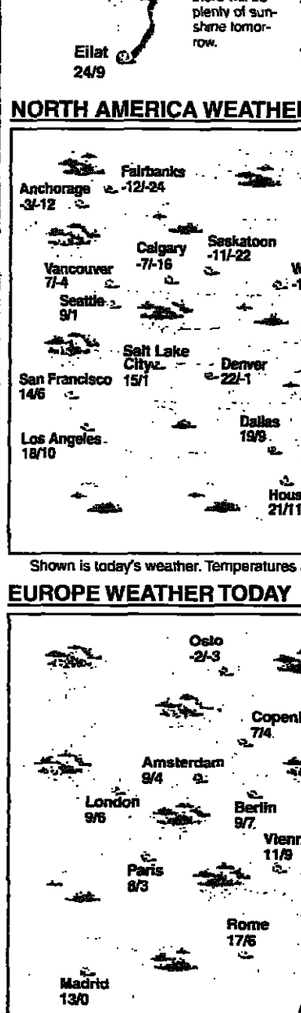
Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	11	2	.846	–
Minnesota	8	5	.615	3
Houston	8	6	.571	3½
San Antonio	6	8	.429	5½
Denver	5	9	.357	6½
Dallas	5	10	.333	7
Vancouver	4	9	.308	7
Pacific Division				
Portland	9	3	.750	–
Seattle	9	4	.692	½
L.A. Lakers	10	6	.625	1
Phoenix	8	6	.571	2
Golden State	6	7	.462	3½
Sacramento	6	8	.429	4
L.A. Clippers	0	12	.000	9

THE WEATHER

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ISRAEL

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ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F
Ariel	17/62	3/37/pc	19/66	7/44/s
Beersheba	18/64	9/48/s	19/66	9/48/s
Dead Sea	23/73	10/50/s	25/77	13/55/s
Eilat	24/75	9/48/s	25/77	12/53/s
Haifa	17/62	11/52/pc	19/66	12/53/s
Jerusalem	15/59	5/41/pc	15/59	7/44/s
Katzrin	14/57	2/35/pc	17/62	4/39/s
Netanya	17/62	11/52/pc	19/66	10/50/s
Tel Aviv	17/62	12/53/pc	19/66	11/52/s
Tiberias	19/66	6/43/pc	23/73	9/48/s

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

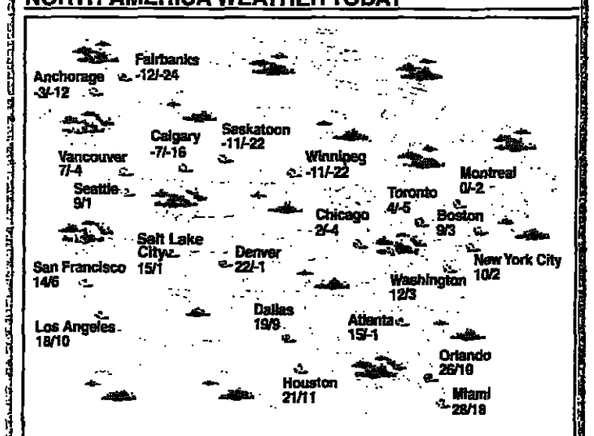
City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	9/48	4/39/sh	6/43	3/37/r
Beijing	22/71	11/52/s	22/71	1/34/pc
Berlin	9/48	7/44/r	11/52	5/41/r
Brussels	9/48	4/39/sh	6/43	2/35/r
Cairo	22/71	8/48/s	23/73	13/55/s
Chicago	2/35	-4/25/pc	3/37	-3/27/pc
Frankfurt	9/48	6/43/r	10/50	5/41/r
Hong Kong	22/71	17/62/pc	23/73	18/64/s
Johannesburg	30/86	17/62/s	32/89	17/62/s
London	8/46	6/43/r	8/46	2/35/r
Los Angeles	18/64	10/50/pc	20/68	8/46/pc
Madrid	13/55	0/32/sh	7/44	-3/27/c
Mexico City	24/75	9/48/pc	20/68	8/46/pc
Montreal	0/32	-2/29/sn	4/39	-11/13/sn
Moscow	-1/31	-6/22/sn	1/34	-1/31/c
New York	10/50	2/35/r	7/44	0/32/sh
Paris	8/46	3/37/r	5/41	1/34/r
Prague	10/50	7/44/sh	13/55	3/37/sh
Rio de Janeiro	27/80	24/75/t	29/84	23/73/sn
Rome	17/62	6/43/pc	14/57	3/37/r
Sydney	26/79	19/66/r	27/80	22/71/pc
Tokyo	12/53	8/46/pc	16/61	13/55/pc
Toronto	4/39	-5/24/sn	0/32	-6/21/sf
Vienna	11/52	9/48/sh	12/53	7/44/sh
Warsaw	8/46	7/44/r	9/48	5/41/r
Washington	12/53	3/37/r	9/48	1/34/s
Zurich	9/48	6/43/r	7/44	-1/31/r

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, I-ice

MOON PHASES

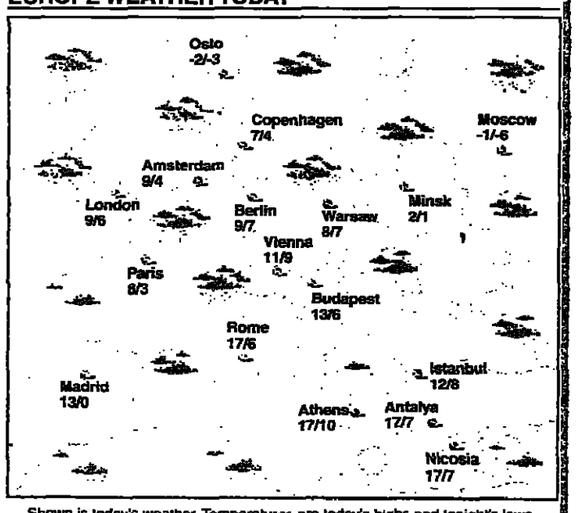
Full	Last	New	First
Mar 2	Mar 10	Mar 17	Mar 24

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



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Israel Adventure Contest



And Today's Winner of the Steimatzky Prize is
Irene Berman, Shoham

Bologna blank Lyon

BOLOGNA, Italy (Reuters) – Former Italian striker Giuseppe Signori scored twice as Bologna crushed Olympique Lyon 3-0 last night to take a giant step towards their first UEFA Cup semifinal.

Signori put his side ahead in the fifth minute with an acrobatic volley from a seemingly impossible angle after he stole in at the back post to meet a deep cross from the right.

His shot wrongfooted Lyon goalkeeper Gregory Coupet, bounced off a post and trickled into the net.

Signori struck again four minutes after the interval to make the quarterfinal first leg tie safe for the Italians, who qualified for the competition via the Intertoto Cup and have not reached the semifinals of a European tournament since 1968.

Bordeaux 2, Parma 1

Girondins Bordeaux scored twice in the last five minutes of the first half.

But Parma's Argentine substitute Hernan Crespo, second highest scorer in serie A, struck a crucial away goal for the Italians with a backheel five minutes from time.

Parma captain Antonio Benarrivo was sent off three minutes earlier for dissent, his second yellow card.

Midfielder Johan Micoud headed the French side in front in the 40th minute from a cross from the left by captain Michel Pavon.

On the stroke of halftime, the pair linked up again to set up striker Sylvain Wiltord for Bordeaux's second.

UEFA CUP RESULTS:
Bologna 3, Olympique Lyon 0
Bordeaux 2, Parma 1
Olymp. Marseille 2, Celta Vigo 1
Atletico Madrid 2, AS Roma 1

PREMIER LEAGUE RESULT:
Tottenham Hotspur 3, Southampton 0

هكذا من الأصل